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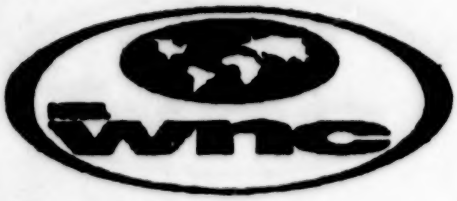
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Daily Report
China

FBIS-CHI-96-111 *7 June 1996*

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General

PRC: Spokesman: With Respect for Facts IPR Talks 'Will Be a Success'

HK0706025396 Beijing CHINA DAILY in English 7 Jun 96 p 1

[By Ma Chenguang: "US Urged To Respect IPR Facts]

[PTS Transcribed Text for FBIS] While the Chinese side is sincere in its ongoing talks with the United States on intellectual property rights protection, the US side should also follow the principle of seeking truth from facts to make the negotiations a success, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

Commenting on the ongoing Sino-US IPR talks in Beijing, Shen Guofang said China hopes the talks will see progress.

Chinese officials and US negotiators led by Assistant Trade Representative Lee Sands began their unofficial consultations in Beijing yesterday morning.

Chinese sources said the two sides agreed to have a constructive dialogue and co-operation during the consultations so as to benefit the growth of bilateral trade and economic co-operation.

However, Shen told a routine news briefing in Beijing that China hopes the US side will respect the facts and follow the principle of seeking truth from facts, adding that "this should be the basis of Sino-US talks."

"With this as the basis, I believe this round of negotiations will be a success," Shen said.

The consultations, the first since May 15 when the two countries announced sanctions and retaliations, will last two days.

Meanwhile, the spokesman confirmed that US businessman William Ping Chen had been detained on Monday by the Shanghai Public Security Bureau for trying to illegally bring into China goods prohibited by Chinese law.

Shen added that the goods imported by Chen are undergoing further inspection by authorities.

Shen did not say what the goods were.

PRC: Spokesman Comments on Cross-Strait Relations

OW0606130996 Beijing China Radio International in Mandarin to Hong Kong, Macao, the Zhu Jiang Delta, and Southeast Asia 0900 GMT 6 Jun 96

[From the "News and Report on Current Events" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang stressed in Beijing on 6 June that the one China principle is the foundation of cross-strait relations and the cornerstone of China's peaceful reunification; it is also our basic criterion for assessing Taiwan's political trends.

Shen Guofang made the above remark at a press briefing on 6 June when asked by reporters to comment on the current state of cross- strait relations. He said: The Chinese Government's stand on the Taiwan question has remained unchanged, and that is the eight-point proposal forwarded by President Jiang Zemin.

Shen Guofang said: The eight-point proposal is the most realistic as well as the most feasible [vernacular and probable STC's: zui xian shi ye shi zui qie shi ke xing di 2584 3807 1395 0048 2508 2584 0434 1395 0668 5887 4104].

Shen Guofang emphasized: We will steadfastly safeguard and defend the one China principle. The peaceful reunification policy and the one country, two systems concept will be adhered to and implemented for a long time to come.

PRC: Spokesman Condemns Japanese Diet Members' Views

OW0606125096 Beijing XINHUA in English 1240 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 6 (XINHUA) — Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang expressed strong indignation here today at the way a number of Japanese Diet Members' have denied both Japan's aggression and the forceful recruitment of "comfort women" by the Japanese army of aggression during the World War Two.

When asked at a routine news conference to comment on a report that Seisuke Okuno, a Japanese Diet member and one of his colleagues, denied Japan's history of aggression and Japanese aggressor troops' forceful recruitment of women in China and other Asian countries to serve as "comfort women", Shen voiced strong indignation over a few Japanese Diet members' adherence to the erroneous conception of history, openly distorting history and embellishing aggression.

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The war of aggression launched by the Japanese militarists brought untold suffering to the Chinese people, Shen noted, adding that it was a universally-recognized historic fact that forcing women of China and other Asian countries to serve as "comfort women" was one of the ferocious crimes committed by the Japanese aggression army.

Having a correct understanding of, and properly dealing with that period of history, is the important political basis for the development of Sino-Japanese friendly and cooperative ties, he said.

"We demand that the Japanese side, taking the approach of responsibility towards history, no longer does any thing that will hurt the feelings of people in China and other Asian victimized countries who have suffered from the aggression," the spokesman said.

PRC: Fuller Version of Temporary Ban on Peaceful Nuclear Tests

OW0605130296 Beijing XINHUA in English 1242 GMT 6 Jun 96

[Fuller version of ow0606105396, published in the 6 June CHINA DAILY REPORT on p 2]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Geneva, June 6 (XINHUA) — China is ready to approve a temporary ban on peaceful nuclear explosions (PNEs) to contribute toward the conclusion of the comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty (CTBT) by the end of June, said Chinese Disarmament Ambassador Sha Zukang Thursday [6 June].

As "a major move by the Chinese Government for the sake of an early treaty,...the Chinese delegation is now ready to go along with a temporary ban on PNEs," Sha told a CTBT session here Thursday morning.

China agrees to leave the issue to the future review conference of the treaty, he said.

If PNEs are to be allowed by a consensus, early arrangements for possible PNEs should be made, precluding any military benefits and consistent with the obligations of States under other international agreements, he added.

China has always viewed PNEs as technology helpful to economic development, and particularly applicable to China, a populous country with a large territory but relatively scarce natural resources, Sha noted.

Sha also stressed, "It is essential to condition the entry into force of the treaty on the joining by all those states that are technically capable of conducting nuclear explosions."

As the CTBT should be a concrete step towards the early elimination of all nuclear weapons, China supports the position of the Group of 21 non-aligned countries that words on nuclear disarmament should be included in the relevant part of the treaty, Sha said.

On verification of the treaty, Sha said the most important issue is the trigger mechanism for on-site inspections (OSI), which "touches upon the security interests of all states parties and exemplifies the principle of equality and justice of the treaty."

He emphasized that data obtained by the international monitoring system (IMS) set up under the treaty should serve as the primary basis for requesting an OSI.

He said that although national technical means (NTMs) may have a supplementary role to play in obtaining data, their use should be restricted.

It is a fact that only a small number of developed countries possess NTMs suitable for the treaty, and abuses may lead to discrimination against developing countries, said the Chinese ambassador.

The data used to trigger on-site inspection "must be technical, reliable, verifiable, and obtained in consistence with universally accepted principles of international law. Such data should also go through a process of technical and political examination."

Sha said that China is categorically against triggering OSI with so-called "human intelligence" such as espionage information.

China firmly believes that in order to ensure the OSI is applied justly, a request for an OSI must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the treaty organization's Executive Council, he added.

Finally, Sha stressed that the OSI, being politically sensitive, can only be the last resort of the verification system to be used under extreme circumstances. It can only be "a rare rather than routine event," he said.

PRC: XINHUA Carries 'Diplomatic News Summary'

OW0606161996 Beijing XINHUA in English 1514 GMT 6 Jun 96

["Diplomatic News Summary" — XINHUA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 6 (XINHUA) — Following is a summary on China's diplomatic news covered today by Home News for Overseas Service Department of XINHUA.

Chinese President Meets Chinese-American Mathematician

President Jiang Zemin met with Chinese-American mathematician and honorary director of the mathematics

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institute of Nankai University, Professor Chern Shiing-Shen and his wife Chern Shih-Ning here this afternoon.

They had a cordial conversation over the development of Chinese education.

Chinese President Meets Philippine Foreign Secretary

President Jiang Zemin said today that under joint efforts of both governments and peoples, Sino-Philippine good-neighborly friendship will continue to develop.

Jiang made the remark this afternoon when meeting with visiting Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Domingo Siazon.

Chinese FM Meets DPRK Vice-Foreign Minister

Chinese Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen met with Vice-Foreign Minister Choe U-chin of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to exchange views on bilateral relations and issues of common concern today.

The strengthening of contacts between the two countries and the frequent exchange of views on bilateral relations and issues of common concern would be of great benefit to enhancing mutual understandings, deepening friendship and expanding cooperation in international affairs between the two sides, Qian said.

Chinese, Philippine Foreign Ministers Confer in Beijing

Chinese Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Domingo Siazon held talks here today.

Chinese Foreign Ministry sources said that the two foreign ministers conferred on a wide range of issues involving Sino- Philippine relations, China-ASEAN relations and other issues of common concern.

CPPCC Vice-Chairman Meets Japanese Visitor

Wan Guoquan, vice-chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) National Committee, met here today with Narazaki Yanosuke, member of House of Representatives of Japanese Diet.

Wan expressed his appreciation of the long-term efforts made by Yanosuke for Sino-Japanese friendship.

Trade Minister Starts Trip to Seven Latin American Nations

Chinese Foreign Trade Minister Wu Yi, heading a Chinese government economic and trade delegation, left here today for a month-long visit to Cuba, Mexico and other five Latin American nations to explore new ways for furthering its trade and economic ties with those countries.

This will be the largest team ever led by a Chinese foreign trade minister to the region, an official with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC) said.

China, US Start Non-Official IPR Talks

Chinese and US negotiators started their non-official consultations here this morning on intellectual property rights.

Chinese source said that the two sides agreed to have a constructive dialogue and cooperation during the consultations so as to benefit the growth of bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

China, US Sets Up Over 100 Pairs of Sister-City Relationships

To date, 111 pairs of sister-city relationships have been established between Chinese and U.S. Cities, Beijing Mayor Li Qiyan announced here today.

Mayor Li, who also is president of the Chinese Association of Mayors, plans to visit the United States tomorrow as head of a Chinese delegation of governors and mayors.

PLA Leader Meets Ecuadoran Visitor

General Fu Quanyou, chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), tonight met Paco Rosendo Moncayo, commander general of the Army of Ecuador.

China attaches importance to developing friendly relations of cooperation with Ecuador, Fu said. The relations between the two countries, as well as the two armed forces have seen a sustained development and frequent exchange of visits by top officers of the two sides, since China and Ecuador forged diplomatic ties in 1980.

FM Spokesman Condemns Japanese Diet Members' Denial of Aggression

Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang expressed strong indignation here today at the way a number of Japanese Diet Members' have denied both Japan's aggression and the forceful recruitment of "comfort women" by the Japanese army of aggression during the World War Two.

When asked at a routine news conference to comment on a report that Seisuke Okuno, a Japanese Diet member and one of his colleagues, denied Japan's history of aggression and Japanese aggressor troops' forceful recruitment of women in China and other Asian

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countries to serve as "comfort women", Shen voiced strong indignation over a few Japanese Diet members' adherence to the erroneous conception of history, openly distorting history and embellishing aggression.

Nepalese Parliament Speaker to Visit China

A delegation of the Parliament of Nepal led by the Speaker of the Lower House Ram Chandra Poudyal will pay an official goodwill visit to China from June 8 to 15.

The visit will be made at the invitation of the Chinese National People's Congress Standing Committee.

Lebanese Prime Minister to Visit China

Rafiq al-Hariri, prime minister of the Republic of Lebanon, will pay an official visit to China from June 13 at the invitation of its Premier Li Peng.

United States & Canada

PRC: Official Hopes for Accord in Reopened IPR Talks

OW0606122596 Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in Chinese 0736 GMT 6 Jun 96

[By reporter Yu Donghui (0151 2639 2547)]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing, 6 Jun (ZXS) — Twenty days after the United States and China announced the lists of trade retaliations and counterretaliations against each other, the two countries reopened their intellectual property rights [IPR] talks, with the start of two-day unofficial consultations in Beijing today. China hopes that an agreement can be reached on the basis of mutual respect, equality, and realism [wu shi 0523 1395].

The chief U.S. negotiator for the current talks is still Assistant U.S. Trade Representative Lee Sands.

In an interview with this ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE reporter, Zhang Yuejiao, chief negotiator for the Chinese who heads the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Treaty and Law Department, emphasized: China is sincere in taking part in the talks, and hopes that the U.S. will also show sincerity and will not hold on to its set principles [bu neng bao zhe ji ding di fang zhen 0008 5174 2128 4192 2478 1353 4104 2455 6859], such as insisting that China shut down a few CD factories, but ignoring results already achieved and measures to be taken by China in IPR protection.

According to a briefing, since mid-May, China has further adopted a series of measures to strengthen law enforcement in IPR protection. For example, piracy and copyright infringement are included in the scope of the ongoing crackdown campaign in China and June, July, and August are designated as the period of intensive law enforcement against piracy and copyright infringement; a just concluded meeting of CD factory directors in Guangdong reiterated the ban on piracy; and customs has stepped up IPR protection at the borders to check the export and import of products that violate copyright.

Zhang Yuejiao said: China does not deny the existence of piracy and copyright infringement. However, the Chinese Government is indeed seriously fulfilling its obligations item by item [que shi zai ren zhen zhu tiao di lu xing zhe zi ji di yi wu 4292 1395 0961 6126 4176 6632 2742 0966 1482 5887 4192 5261 1569 4104 5030 0523]. Whether or not negotiations are going on between China and the United States, China will take the initiative in IPR protection because it is in China's own interests.

She emphasized: Piracy and copyright infringement are an international problem that should be cracked down through concerted efforts by all parties. U.S. IPR owners should actively cooperate with the Chinese in IPR protection by promptly reporting any clues whenever discovered; so long as there is conclusive evidence, the Chinese Government will deal with them firmly. However, China will by no means accept the U.S. false charges [bu shi zhi ci 0008 1395 0037 6101] and threat of sanctions, a practice that hurts the Chinese people's feelings.

In conclusion, Zhang Yuejiao pointed out: Wielding the "big stick" cannot help solve the problem and, still more, is unworkable on China.

PRC: Jiang Zemin Meets Chinese-American Mathematician

OW0606130396 Beijing XINHUA in English 1203 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 6 (XINHUA) — Chinese President Jiang Zemin met with Chinese-American mathematician and honorary director of the mathematics institute of Nankai University, Professor Chern Shiing-Shen and his wife Chern Shih-Ning here this afternoon.

They had a cordial conversation over the development of Chinese education.

Professor Chern, one of the overseas academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences [CAS], has made great contributions to Sino-US educational exchanges, and helped China's mathematics education and research.

Chern is here to attend a CAS academician's meeting.

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Minister in charge of the State Education Commission Zhu Kaixuan and President of the Nankai University Prof. Hou Zixin were present at today's meeting.

PRC: Delegation of Governors, Mayors Leaves for U.S.

OW0706100996 Beijing XINHUA in English 0812 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 7 (XINHUA) — A nine- number Chinese delegation of provincial governors and mayors, led by Beijing mayor Li Qiyan, left here today for a goodwill visit to the United States.

Also included in the delegation with Li were He Shaocun, deputy governor of north China's Hebei Province, Yun Bulong, vice-chairman of people's government of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, and Wu Aiying, deputy governor of east China's Shandong Province.

The delegation, organized by the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs, was on the trip at the invitation of U.S. National Committee on United States-China Relations.

PRC: Nuclear Cooperation Protocol Signed With Canada

OW0606163996 Beijing XINHUA in English 1606 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ottawa, June 6 (XINHUA) — China and Canada signed a protocol for technical cooperation and exchange of information in nuclear regulatory matters here today.

Huang Qitao, director general of China's National Nuclear Safety Administration (NNSA), and Agnes Bishop, president of the Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB) of Canada, put their signatures on the agreement at the AECB's headquarters here.

Under the agreement, the AECB will provide for nuclear regulatory training and assistance to the NNSA and to provide for the exchange of personnel.

Today's agreement represents the tenth of its kind China has ever forged with other countries. It is a follow-up to the Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy between the two countries signed in November 1994.

The protocol becomes all the more important since the two countries have agreed to build Candu 6 nuclear reactors in China, Huang said.

Describing the accord as "important," Bishop said the agreement is going to "be where both share and learn from each other" in the nuclear safety field.

It has also opened "a door for a greater and promising future" of Sino-Canadian cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, added Chinese Ambassador to Canada Zhang Yijun, who witnessed the signing.

Central Eurasia

PRC: Li Lanqing, Estonia's Lennart Meri Discuss Ties 5 Jun

OW0506172396 Beijing XINHUA in English 1635 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tallinn, June 5 (XINHUA) — Estonian President Lennart Meri said today that Sino-Estonian ties could be held up as a model for an equal relationship between a big nation and a small one.

He told Chinese Vice Premier Li Lanqing, who is here for a three- day visit, that bilateral relations are problem-free and as full of potential as "a boundless clear sky."

The two countries respect each other and their relations could serve as a model for the development of equal and cooperative ties between large and small states, Meri said.

He said China had contributed a great deal to the evolution of human civilization and would play an important future role in safeguarding world peace and promoting development.

Praising the achievements of China's economic reforms, he said he believed that China has found its own development path by which to chart its future course.

Li said China attaches importance to developing relations on the basis of equality, mutual respect, mutual benefit and mutual non-interference in other countries' internal affairs.

China respects Estonia's choice of political system and ideology, he said.

Li added that exchanges of visits by leaders of the two countries have given impetus to the development of good relations.

Meri thanked China for its support for Estonia's efforts to safeguard its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Both sides agreed to further promote bilateral relations.

Li also briefed Meri on China's views on the international situation and China's independent foreign policy.

He gave the assurance that the strengthening of Sino-Russian relations is not directed against any third country and will not harm the interests of other countries.

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Li, who is touring five European nations, arrived in Tallinn Tuesday [4 June] after visits to Hungary, Poland and Lithuania. The vice premier is expected to fly to Latvia Thursday.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

PRC: Jiang Zemin, Philippine Foreign Minister Discuss Relations

HK0706043996 Beijing CHINA DAILY in English 7 Jun 96 p 1

[By Chen Yanni: "Beijing, Manila Discuss Region's 'Neighbourhood'"]

[PTS Transcribed Text for FBIS] China's economic growth will have a positive impact on both Asian and global peace and development, President Jiang Zemin told visiting Philippine Foreign Minister Domingo L. Siazon Jr yesterday in Beijing.

Jiang said that China's drive to develop its national economy calls for a long-term stable international environment, especially a peaceful neighbourhood.

He said that Sino-Philippine relations had progressed smoothly since the two countries established diplomatic ties 21 years ago.

"Co-operation and friendship are the mainstream," Jiang said. "As to the existing problems between the two countries, they can be solved through consultations as long as both sides proceed with a consideration of bilateral relations."

"I believe the Sino-Philippine relationship — that of good neighbours — will continue to advance through the joint efforts of the two governments and peoples," Jiang said.

He noted that China attaches importance to its friendly ties with members of the Alliance of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), including the Philippines.

Siazon, who arrived in Beijing on Wednesday for a weeklong visit, fully agreed with President Jiang's assessment of bilateral relations. He said the Philippines hopes to strengthen and expand friendly co-operative relations with China in various fields.

President Jiang accepted Philippine President Fidel Ramos's invitation, conveyed by Siazon, to visit his country after the informal summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic and Cooperation Organization (Apec) to be held there this year.

Jiang said that China will actively co-operate with the Philippines to ensure the meeting's success.

Chinese Vice-President and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen also met with Siazon yesterday. Both of them expressed satisfaction with the development of links between China and Asean in recent years.

"Our common interests are far greater than our differences, Qian said, adding that one basic concern shared by China and the Southeast Asian nations, including the Philippines, is their need for a favourable and stable neighbourhood.

The foreign ministers agreed that disputes over the Nansha Islands will be settled appropriately through peaceful means.

Siazon, who brought with him a team of high-powered Philippine entrepreneurs, said that the Philippine Government will continue to stick to the principle of "one China." He also said that his government will strictly abide by the established models of the former Apec meetings and the informal summit meetings.

PRC: Rong Yiren Meets Philippine Foreign Secretary

OW0706112396 Beijing XINHUA in English 1014 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 7 (XINHUA) — Chinese Vice-President Rong Yiren met here this morning with visiting Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Domingo Siazon and his party.

Extending a welcome to the Philippine visitors, Rong said that the current visit to China by Siazon and Philippine businessmen will further promote the development of bilateral friendship.

Rong said that the bilateral friendly relations and the traditional friendships between the two peoples have not been easy to come by, and should be treasured. He said he hopes that people from the two countries can continue their exchanges.

He also expressed his congratulations on the establishment of the twin-province relationship between China's Hainan Province and the Philippine's Cebu Province. He said it is an encouraging outcome of the bilateral friendship, and it will increase the friendly ties between the two provinces.

Noting that both China and the Philippines are developing countries in need of upgrading their economies, Rong said it is necessary for the two sides to strengthen cooperation in trade, investment, science and technology, and finance.

He said China welcomes Philippine entrepreneurs to invest in China, and it also encourages Chinese businessmen to invest in the Philippines.

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Cooperation between Chinese and Philippine businessmen can promote the development of the two economies and stimulate the friendship between the two peoples, Rong pointed out.

He said it is normal to see some problems emerge during the development of bilateral economic, trade and financial cooperation, and that these problems can be solved through constant consultations.

Siazon agreed with Rong, saying that bilateral relations have developed satisfactorily during the past year, and he hopes that future cooperation will continue.

Near East & South Asia

PRC: Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hopes for Bahrain's Stability

OW0706112196 Beijing XINHUA in English 1023 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 7 (XINHUA) — China is concerned about the domestic situation in Bahrain and supports it in maintaining its stability, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang said here today.

The spokesman made the remarks when asked to comment on the recent turmoil in Bahrain, adding that China is against terrorism in any form.

"China supports Bahrain in maintaining its stability," he said. "This will benefit not only the tranquility and construction of Bahrain itself, but the peace and development in the Gulf area as a whole."

PRC: Progress of Middle East Peace Talks Discussed

HK0706055596 Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 4 May 96 p 3

[Article from "Dialogue on Hot Topics" column by Zhu Mengkui (2612 1125 7608), editor of RENMIN RIBAO International Department; Liu Yongming (0491 3057 2494), Egypt-based RENMIN RIBAO reporter; and Wu Wenbin (0702 2429 2430), Syria-based RENMIN RIBAO reporter: "A Favorable Turn and a Difficult Problem in Middle East Peace Talks"]

[PTS Translated Text for FBIS] **Preparatory Steps for Palestinian-Israeli Talks**

Editor: From the end of last year until the beginning of this year, the Middle East peace talks saw a pleasing situation. The Palestinian-Israeli talks continued to achieve progress, and the Syrian-Israeli talks also became gradually more substantive and more concrete. However, the Middle East peace process has never been smooth sailing. After the assassination of the Hamas leader Ayyash by Israel in early January, and the suicide attacks carried out by Hamas within Israeli territory in February and March, there was a large-scale clash in April between Lebanon and Israel as a result of mutual reprisals between Israel and the Lebanese Hezbollah Party. These sudden incidents resulted in the Middle East peace talks which were progressing very slowly facing a new threat. Following the Lebanon-Israel clash, and the reaching of the ceasefire agreement at the end of April, all sides involved in the Middle East peace talks made new efforts to revive the dialogue. I would like to ask: Have the Palestinian-Israeli talks seen a turn for the better? What new changes have there been in the stands of the two sides?

Liu Yongming: At present, following the conclusion of the Lebanese-Israeli clash and an improvement in the domestic situation in Israel, with the prodding of the international community, the Palestinian-Israeli peace talks are gradually moving away from their stalled situation and have seen a turn for the better. This is mainly manifested in the following aspects:

The Palestine National Council, which is the highest organ of power in the PLO, made the decision on 24 April to revise the "Palestine National Charter" so as to remove the article which refers to the "elimination of Israel."

As a response to the Palestine National Council agreeing to revise the charter, the Israeli Labor Party, led by Peres, convened an emergency meeting on 25 April, which unanimously agree to eliminate from its electoral platform the article which "opposes the establishment of an independent state by the Palestinian people." Observers felt that with this decision, the establishment of a Palestinian state "is only a matter of time."

New troop redeployments in Hebron put that city on the agenda. On 1 May, the troops based in Hebron began shifting military materials and equipment out of the city as preparation for the withdrawal of forces from the majority of the areas of this Palestinian city. It is predicted that the Israeli authorities may begin the withdrawal of troops from Hebron on the eve of the general election at the end of May.

Editor: The obvious changes in the major stands of the Palestinians and the Israelis not only removes grudges which have long hung over Arab-Israeli relations, but also creates a suitable atmosphere for the talks on the permanent status of Palestine, which are going to be conducted soon, and provides a basis of principles on which there can be fair dialogue. Please tell us something about 'Arafat's recent visit to the United

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States and about the present state of Palestinian-Israeli talks on the permanent status of Palestine.

Liu Yongming: The Israeli Prime Minister Peres and the Palestinian President 'Arafat both responded to invitations and visited the United States. 'Arafat has been a guest in the White House on two previous occasions, but on both occasions it was to sign the Palestinian-Israeli peace accord. This visit was his first working visit to the United States. On 1 May, Clinton met 'Arafat in the White House. This was a further initiative by the United States aimed at supporting Palestinian-Israeli peace. However, Clinton did not clearly express his support for the proposal to establish a Palestinian state. He held that this question should be kept for discussion at the future Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. In Washington, 'Arafat also had a short meeting with Peres to discuss the military withdrawal from Hebron and preparations for the Palestinian-Israeli discussions on the permanent status of Palestine.

On 30 April, the Palestinians and Israelis declared that they would begin discussions on the permanent status of Palestine on 5 May in Taba in Egypt. This action indicates that the Palestinian-Israeli peace process is back on track, and again demonstrates the resolve of the two sides to continue the peace process.

Although the Palestinian-Israeli talks have seen a turn for the better, the greatest difficulty facing Palestinian-Israeli peace is that the Israelis, using the pretext of security, have not lifted their blockade on Gaza and the West Bank of the Jordan River. This "collective punishment" which has lasted for over two months, has brought catastrophic effects to the Palestinian people. According to 'Arafat, they have deprived 120,000 Palestinians of work, resulting in Palestine suffering daily direct or indirect economic losses of $6 million. 'Arafat demanded that Egypt help convince Israel to end its blockade. The reply by Israel was that: Because of the need to ensure that new violent incidents do not occur before the elections, at present it is not possible to lift the blockade.

Awaiting the Opportunity for Syrian-Israeli Talks

Editor: While mediating during the Lebanese-Israeli clash, the United States and France foreign ministers separately discussed the issues relating to the cease-fire with leaders of the three countries of Syria, Israel, and Lebanon and also explored the possibility of resuming the Middle East peace talks as quickly as possible after the cessation of hostilities. All sides expressed their desire to put efforts into pushing forward the stalled Middle East peace process. Please tell us the main reasons why it has been difficult to achieve any progress in the Syrian-Israeli talks.

Wu Wenbin: In recent years, while real results have been realized in Jordanian-Israeli talks and Palestinian-Israeli talks, the Syrian-Israeli talks have seen interruptions and it has been difficult to achieve any breakthroughs.

The focus of the Syrian-Israeli talks is the Golan Heights issue. The Golan Heights is Syria's territory, but it was occupied by Israel following the "5 June" war in 1967, and incorporated into Israel's maps in 1981. Its area is 1,150 square kilometers, and occupies an extremely important strategic position. For several years, Syria and Israel have held a series of talks, but serious differences still exist between the two sides.

On the scope of the withdrawal of troops, Syria firmly holds that Israel must implement U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338, and withdraw all forces back to the border line as it was on 4 June 1967. Israel has refused a complete withdrawal of forces and has only agreed to the international border which existed during the period of the rule by the French Commission. It is trying to continue its occupation of over 40 square kilometers which have rich underground water resources.

On the issue of the withdrawal timetable, Syria wants Israel to complete the withdrawal of troops within 6 months to a year, but Israel wants a withdrawal by stages at the end of the century.

With respect to security arrangements, Syria demands that an equal and reciprocal security zone (demilitarized zone) be established on both sides of the border which existed prior to 5 June 1967. Israel demands that after it withdraws its troops, it be able to leave early warning stations on the Golan Heights and that the Syrian forces would be withdrawn to north of Damascus.

On the normalization of relations, Syria has proposed that after the complete withdrawal from the Golan Heights, Syria and Israel would normalize their relations. However, Israel wants to normalize relations after the first stage of troop withdrawal. This would include the opening of borders, exchange of ambassadors, and the establishment of overall political, economic, trade, and cultural relations.

The extraordinary meeting of the Israeli Labor Party held on 25 April decided to delete from its electoral platform the clause "sovereignty over the Golan Heights belongs to Israel" and replace it with "the Golan Heights are extremely important to Israel's security." This was a positive step taken by the Israeli side in respect of Syrian-Israeli relations.

The United States has proposed that, prior to the Israeli general elections, representatives from Syria and Israel again sit down together and, even if they do not discuss

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substantive problems, they could at least create an "atmosphere of trust" for peace. However, Syria was concerned about whether or not Peres would achieve victory in the general elections. President al-Asad clearly is unwilling to act hastily prior to seeing the outcome of the elections. Thus there is little possibility that Syria will resume the talks prior to the general elections.

Dispute Between Lebanon and Israel Is Hindering Peace

Editor: The large-scale military actions which Israel has recently taken in Lebanon have resulted in great loss of life and property for the Lebanese people. It has also increased the concern of the international community that the problems of southern Lebanon be resolved as early as possible. Through the most recent Lebanese-Israeli clashes and the mediation of the international community, the causes of the dispute between Lebanon and Israel and the focuses of their disagreements have become clearer. Please give us a concise summary of the core of the Lebanese-Israeli conflict and your appraisal of the direction in which Syrian-Israeli and Lebanese-Israeli talks will move.

Wu Wenbin: The focal point of the Lebanese-Israeli conflict is that Israel still occupies 850 square kilometers of territory in the southern Lebanese border region, and this has become the powderhouse which has resulted in continued military clashes between Lebanon and Israel.

In 1982, Israel carried out a major invasion into Lebanon. In March 1985, Israel withdrew its troops from Lebanon but, using the excuse that it had to protect the security of its northern border, Israel designated a part of southern Lebanon as a "security zone" and refused to withdraw its troops. At the same time, it supported the Southern Lebanon Army which has close relations with Israel, so that it acted defiantly against the central government of Lebanon. Through the 10-plus rounds of talks which have already taken place between Lebanon and Israel, a common understanding has been reached on a framework for withdrawing the troops. However, the two sides are still debating the question whether to first guarantee security and then withdraw the troops, or first withdraw the troops and then worry about security. Each sticks to its own opinion. In addition, in 1991 Lebanon signed a "Treaty of Fraternal Cooperation and Coordination" with Syria. The two sides have always maintained a special relationship and they uphold the principle that their talks with Israel must advance at the "same pace." Thus, the progress of the Lebanese-Israeli talks will depend entirely on the way in which the Syrian-Israeli talks go.

The serious effects of the recent large-scale clash between Lebanon and Israel have resulted in the United States, France, Syria, Lebanon, and Israel all recognizing that if they are to completely avoid a recurrence of the tragedy, the sides in conflict must return to the negotiating table, implement the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and realize an overall and sustained peace. This is the only way to finally resolve the problems.

The crux as to whether the Middle East peace talks and especially the Syrian-Israeli and Lebanese-Israeli peace talks can achieve breakthroughs lies in the results of the Israeli general elections. Indications are that if Peres achieves victory, the Syrian-Israeli peace talks will be revived very quickly and will rise to deputy minister level. The United States will strongly urge the two sides to achieve a breakthrough prior to the United States elections, so as to improve Clinton's electoral chances. If the hawkish Likud party wins the elections, while the peace process will not be stopped, it will certainly face more difficulties.

In addition, France and the European Union have responded to requests by Syria and Lebanon and in the future Middle East peace talks, they will play a greater balancing role. This will pose a challenge to the existing situation where the United States monopolizes the Middle East peace talks.

PRC: Chi Haotian Arrives in UAE on Official Visit

OW0606144396 Beijing XINHUA in English 1417 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Abu Dhabi, June 6 (XINHUA) — Chinese Defense Minister Chi Haotian arrived here today from Kuwait for a five-day official visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the third leg of his four-nation Arab tour.

This is the first visit by a Chinese defense minister to the UAE. He has visited Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and is expected to visit Egypt next Monday.

Upon his arrival, Chi Haotian expressed hope to further develop and deepen the friendly relations between China and the UAE as well as the Armed Forces of the two countries.

During his visit, the Chinese defense minister will hold meetings with high ranking UAE officials to discuss ways to promote cooperations between the two countries and armed forces.

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Sub-Saharan Africa

PRC: 'Roundup' Views Jiang Zemin's Visit, Sino-African Relations

OW2405125596 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1403 GMT 22 May 96

[Roundup by reporter Liu Jiang (0491 3068): "A Milestone for Developing Cross-Century Sino-African Relations"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Harare, 22 May (XINHUA) — President Jiang Zemin left for home on 22 May after concluding fruitful state visits to six African nations. In a short two weeks beginning on 8 May, he successively visited Kenya, Ethiopia, Egypt, Mali, Namibia, and Zimbabwe, covering some 38,000 km over eastern, western, southern, and northern Africa. This is the first time in recent years a supreme Chinese leader has visited Africa. The visit has established a new milestone for consolidating and strengthening Sino-African traditional friendship as well as developing Sino-African friendly and cooperative relations geared toward the 21st century.

Beginning with the day he set foot on African soil, Jiang Zemin enjoyed good brotherly friendship as all six nations attached great importance to his visit and accorded him high-level receptions. The president, premier, parliament speaker, and all cabinet members of some nations welcomed Jiang Zemin at the airport, while the president of some nations accompanied him on his visit throughout. Jiang Zemin's motorcade was often welcomed by tens of thousands of people lining the two sides of roads. The grand occasions and warm atmosphere were unforgettable.

During his visit, Jiang Zemin held a series of meetings and official talks with heads of state and government of the six nations as well as leaders of the Organization of African Unity [OAU] and the Arab League, reaching broad common understanding on bilateral relations and major regional and international issues. In Addis Ababa, where the OAU is located, President Jiang Zemin delivered a long speech on African policy. He forwarded five principled proposals for the development of Sino-African relations under the new situation, which is sincere and friendly; equal; mutually beneficial; strengthened with consultations; and future-oriented. This policy won great praise and broad support from African nations.

During their talks, Chinese and African leaders unanimously held that China and Africa share long historical origins in their friendship, which has withstood the test of time and a changing international situations. Further, China and Africa share similar experiences and are both faced with the tasks of revitalizing the national economy and maintaining political stability. Therefore, it is easy for the two to communicate with and understand each other. Under the new situation, it is necessary and possible for the two sides to become "all-weather friends." They can enhance contacts and exchanges in various fields and march hand in hand toward the 21st century with more substantive, more specific, and more fruitful cooperation.

In regard to their views on the African situation and international relations, the Chinese and African leaders share unanimous opinions. Currently, the strong impact on Africa following the great changes in the post-Cold War international situation has basically passed, and Africa is entering a new era principally characterized by its bid for stability and development. From a long-term point of view, Africa is passing from the "liberation century" to the "development century" and striving to achieve the second historical leap from national independence to economic takeoff. Both sides held that there are many opportunities as well as challenges for Africa — and even the world — to achieve peace and development. China and Africa should enhance consultations and cooperation in international affairs, oppose hegemony and power politics, and strive jointly to establish a just, rational, and new international political and economic order.

During President Jiang's visit, Chinese and African leaders held fruitful examination on ways to strengthen bilateral economic and technological cooperation and made many specific achievements. The two sides felt that, since China is experiencing rapid economic growth and possesses sizable funds, technologies, and management experiences, and Africa has rich resources and vast markets, there is huge potential and bright prospects for bilateral cooperation. Both sides have agreed to gradually expand cooperation among large enterprises while maintaining intergovernmental cooperation. They will encourage enterprises of both sides to play a greater role in Sino-African economic and trade cooperation through joint ventures to achieve the objective of mutual benefits and joint development. During the visit, the Chinese Government signed a total of 23 documents on economic and technological cooperation with governments of the six nations.

President Jiang Zemin's fruitful visits to the six African nations have achieved the objective of "enhancing friendship, strengthening unity, promoting cooperation, and learning from the African people." As the African press has remarked, this is a "historical visit" and a major event in the history of Sino-African relations. This visit has opened a new chapter in Sino-African friendly and cooperative relations and will make new

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and great contributions to promoting world peace and development.

PRC: Jiang Zemin Visits Namibian Children's Center

OW2805043696 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1646 GMT 20 May 96

["Feature" by reporter Liu Jiang (0491 3068): "Sowing Friendship in the Hearts of the Younger Generation — An Account of President Jiang's Visit to the Windhoek Children's Center"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Windhoek, 20 May (XINHUA) — This morning, Windhoek was bathed in sunshine. The Windhoek Children's Center, which is located in the northwest outskirts of the city, was filled with festive atmosphere. A few hundred neatly dressed children, led by their teachers, lined up at the main gate of the center to welcome President Jiang Zemin, an honorable guest from China, a country far away from Namibia.

At 0950, when Jiang Zemin and his party were entering the main gate, the whole courtyard of the center seemed to be boiling — the children chanted welcoming slogans and waved Chinese and Namibian national flags. The smiling faces of the children looked like flowers. A young girl pinned a red flower on President Jiang's chest, and President Jiang, all smiling, gently caressed her head and expressed his thanks to her. Warm applause erupted among the crowd. [passage introducing the children's center omitted]

After President Jiang entered the courtyard, 15 children dressed in white began to dance to light music and sing songs of praise and blessing. Later, a group of boys, barefooted and in traditional Namibian costumes, began to perform a passionate African dance. Miss Caropu, director of the children's center, told President Jiang that the center had begun its summer holidays, but, when the children heard that they were going to perform for Chinese guests, they raced to express their goodwill for China. President Jiang was very much pleased, and gave prolonged applause for the children's performance. [passage omitted]

In the center's gymnasium, President Jiang cordially chatted with two Chinese coaches who arrived in Namibia not long ago. He said: You should work earnestly here to help Namibia nurture the younger generation. African people are good in sporting events, springing, and jumping, and have good endurance. I believe that you will achieve good results here.

After the visit, Jiang Zemin returned to the courtyard and wrote in a visitors' book: "The future of the country; the hope of the nation." Later, he presented a batch of book bags, stationery, and candies, to the center. The courtyard was filled with applause and laughter. Miss Caropu, who had worked for children's education for 16 years, emotionally told this reporter: "President Jiang's visit has sown the seeds of Namibian-Chinese friendship in the hearts of the younger generation of Namibia. We will work harder to pass on this friendship from generation to generation, so it will continue to bear beautiful flowers and abundant fruits."

PRC: Jiang Zemin Visits Meat Processing Plant in Namibia

OW2605122396 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1616 GMT 20 May 96

[By correspondent Liu Jiang (0491 3068)]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Windhoek, 20 May (XINHUA) — This morning, President Jiang Zemin and his entourage visited the United Namibia meat processing plant, which is located in a suburban area of Windhoek.

In the plant's conference room, Jiang Zemin was briefed by Taff Burger, chairman of the meat processing company, and watched a video tape. Later, in the company of Biana, manager of the plant's slaughtering department, Jiang Zemin visited the slaughtering, dismembering, packaging, and freezing shops. The Chinese visitors were deeply impressed by the plant's modern technology and management. [passage omitted introducing the plant]

PRC: XINHUA Interviews Rwandan President on Ties With China

OW0706022896 Beijing XINHUA in English 2119 GMT 6 Jun 96

[By Pei Shanqin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kigali, June 6 (XINHUA) — Rwandan President Pasteur Bizimungu today expressed the hope that friendly cooperation between Rwanda and China will be further strengthened.

President Bizimungu will start a five-day official visit to China on June 10 at the invitation of President Jiang Zemin of the People's Republic of China.

This will be the first time for him to visit China since he became president of Rwanda on July 19, 1994.

On the eve of his tour to China, the president stressed, in an exclusive interview with XINHUA, that there exists profound friendship between Rwanda and China.

He said, after the end of the civil war and genocide in July 1994, the Rwandan new government faced arduous

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work to undertake all tasks neglected and to reconstruct the homeland.

"It is at this difficult time that China has given precious assistance politically, morally and materially to Rwanda," he said. China was one of the first countries which resumed their embassies' work in Kigali in the post-war time, he added.

On the aim of his forthcoming visit to China, President Bizimungu said: "I'm going to China, firstly to express my government and my people's gratitude to China, and then, to reinforce this friendship and cooperation between the two countries."

The president said that he will, during the visit, brief Chinese leaders and people on the efforts and the progress made by his government in the reconstruction of homeland and rehabilitation of economy after the end of the civil war and genocide in the country.

He said that the internal situation in Rwanda has became calm and the security situation obviously improved. "Rwanda has forged ahead a decisive step along the road to build and strengthen peace and social security and to reconstruct and rehabilitate the economy in the country," he stressed.

However, President Bizimungu said, despite about 1.8 million old and new refugees have returned back home, more than 1.5 million refugees are still staying abroad.

"There is a lot to be done for the national reconciliation and reconstruction in the country," he said.

Therefore, the president said, Rwanda hopes to continue getting support from China, adding that the Rwandan people need more support from China, especially at the time when they are facing numerous difficulties on the road of economic rehabilitation and reconstruction.

President Bizimungu expressed his belief that by his visit, the friendly cooperation between Rwanda and China will be further strengthened.

PRC: Rwandan President Says Visit To Enhance Bilateral Relations

OW0706043296 Beijing XINHUA in English 0221 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kigali, Rwanda, June 6 (XINHUA) — Rwandan President Pasteur Bizimungu today said that his scheduled China visit will further enhance bilateral relations between Rwanda and China.

Bizimungu, who is to pay an official visit to China between June 10 and 14, told Kigali-based Chinese journalists that he will extend gratitude to the Chinese leaders and people for their support and aid in Rwanda's reconstruction after the civil war.

China supported Rwanda politically, morally and materially when the country started reconstruction in 1994 after the civil war ended, the president said.

China was one of the first foreign countries which had reopened their embassies in Kigali immediately after the civil war ended, he added.

The Rwandan president said that his country is stable now since security has greatly improved and the Rwandan people have made decisive progress in developing economy and social welfare.

Seventy percent of agricultural output had been restored by the beginning of this year while highways, water and electricity supplies as well as telecommunication facilities, which were severely damaged during the war, had been basically rehabilitated.

The president said that though the country is resettling upwards two million refugees, there are still 1.5 million Rwandan refugees staying abroad.

Bizimungu said that he wishes China would continue to support and aid his country at a time when it braves various difficulties to rehabilitate its economy and to reconstruct its infrastructure.

Civil war broke out in Rwanda on April 6, 1994 when its president was killed in a plane crash and the three-month civil war forced millions of Rwandans to flee their homes and seek refuge in neighboring countries.

PRC: XINHUA Interviews Rwandan Prime Minister on Foreign Policy

OW0706014596 Beijing XINHUA in English 2054 GMT 6 Jun 96

[By Pei Shanqin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kigali, June 6 (XINHUA) — The foreign policy of the Rwandan national unity government is door-open [as received] and friendly to all peace-loving countries, especially to those which helped Rwandan people during the civil war and their struggle against genocide.

The statements were made by Rwandan Prime Minister Pierre Celestin Rwigyema here on Tuesday [4 June].

The prime minister told XINHUA that since the new government was established on July 19, 1994, Rwanda has made a success on the diplomatic front, with assistance from the international community in its post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation.

Rwigema said that the number of diplomatic missions based in Kigali is now increasing.

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On ties between Rwanda and neighboring countries, the prime minister said that Rwanda is practicing a good-neighborliness policy, stressing that Rwanda wants to be a good friend to all neighboring countries so as to have a good regional environment for the post-war reconstruction of the country.

With Burundi, he said, there is no problem. Burundi is now experiencing a difficult time of some internal problems. "Our wishes are to see the international community to help the Burundian people to avoid the tragedy occurred in Rwanda," he stressed.

On relations between Rwanda and Tanzania, Rwigema said, the relations between the two countries are good.

He said that the relations were strengthened after recent visits to Tanzania by Rwandan foreign minister and himself. The Tanzanian government has promised to cooperate with Rwanda to help solving difficulties in road transportation and communications it faces at present.

Rwigema said that Tanza[illegible] would also help repatriating Rwandan refugees. Some Rwandan ministers will visit Rwandan refugee camps in North-Western Tanzania to explain the government policy, peaceful situation in the country and needs for their returning back home for the post-war reconstruction, he added.

He said he believed that more and more refugees will come back home.

The prime minister said, Uganda, as Tanzania, is a good friend of Rwanda. "The relations between Rwanda and Uganda are excellent," he said.

On relations between Rwanda and Zaire, Rwigema said, the relations are "not so good, nor bad," because there is some misunderstandings about the Rwandan properties or equipments looted to Zaire by the former Rwandan government and army, and a large number of the former government officials and military officers are genocide authors.

The prime minister expressed the hope that one day the problem of misunderstanding will be solved through friendly discussions between the two countries.

"I have invited my Zairean counterpart to visit Rwanda, and even the Zairean prime minister himself has expressed his hope to come to Rwanda last month when he visited Burundi," he added.

At the same time, the prime minister said that Rwanda will try its best to contribute to stability and economic development in the sub-region through the meetings organized in the region, which he believed, are one of the means to be able to promote peace and stability in the sub-region.

PRC: 'Roundup' Views Post-War Reconstruction in Rwanda

OW0706024596 Beijing XINHUA in English 2043 GMT 6 Jun 96

["Roundup" by Pei Shanqin: "Post-War Reconstruction Makes Progress in Rwanda"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kigali, June 5 (XINHUA) — The Rwandan national unity government has made remarkable progress in promoting national reconciliation and reconstruction since it came to power on July 19, 1994.

Former President Juvenal Habyarimana, a member of the Hutu ethnic majority, was killed in April 1994 when his plane was shot down as it flew into Kigali. His death led to three months of ethnic bloodletting, in which 500,000 people were killed and one million displaced, before the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) seized power the following July.

Due to the catastrophe, the social order was destroyed, the public activities disabled throughout the country, and its national economy given a fatal strike.

Under this situation, the newly-founded national unity government, in which Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) plays a leading role, was facing many a challenge to overcome in the small mountainous country.

As soon as the new government was established, it embarked on a reconstruction and development program and set out an overall strategy to promote national unity and reconciliation, social welfare and economic prosperity.

To create and maintain peace and stability in the country, the government has also taken some concrete measures, such as suspension of political party's activities, rehabilitation and strengthening judicial organizations, and proper settlement of displaced people and returned refugees.

So far, government departments at all levels have been re- established and strengthened. The state of security has been greatly improved and peace basicly realized in the country, although there are still some harassing and wrecking activities conducted in the western area by former government armed elements who infiltrated from neighboring countries.

The comparative stability in the country has created good conditions for returning of refugees.

According to official statistics, since the end of the civil war and genocide, 1.8 million Rwandese refugees have returned home from neighboring Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Zaire.

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With assistance from UN and international organizations, the government has established some refugee transit camps along border areas and built houses, drinking water facilities, schools and health centers in planned settlement areas.

In return, the proper settlement of displaced people and refugees has played a positive role for social stability in the country.

Meanwhile, the economy, which was in ruins two years ago, now has been recovering.

A senior official in the Planning Ministry said that Gross Domestic Product in 1995 increased by 25 percent in comparison with that of 1994, and reached 60 percent of that of 1990 when the civil war first broke out.

Last year the agricultural production rose to 60 to 80 percent of pre-war rates. Food production was recorded at 3.1 million tonnes last year as against 5 million tonnes in 1990.

In the industrial sector, 54 of the total 88 enterprise factories in the country have been re-operated, production of which achieved 75 percent of the pre-war level.

Since last October, exchange rates of the Rwanda Franc against foreign currencies have been stable, with the soaring trend of the prices controlled and the annual inflation rate stablized at about 22 percent.

The government has also attached much importance to rehabilitation of basic infrastructure and social welfare projects.

According to the Minister for Rehabilitation and Social Integration Patrick Mazimhaka, all major roads and communications in the country have been restored, and electricity and water supplies are now available in all 13 urban centers and in 80 percent of rural areas.

The health sector is also recovering after the devastation of the war and genocide. In 1994, there were 284 health centers in the country, most of them were damaged, but two years later, 270 are now back in operation and 29 out of its 33 hospitals are functioning again.

As a result of the determined effort and cooperation between the government and the international community, schools now function in all areas of the country and more than one million Rwandan children attended school in 1995.

Achievements scored in the post-war reconstruction, of course, have further consolidated political power of the new government.

However, it should be noted that such reconstruction and rehabilitation in full scale is still facing a lot of difficulties, such as lack of funds, technicians and skilled manpower and harassing and subversion activities conducted by former government armed elements in the western areas.

There is a lot to be done to realize final national reconciliation, because about 1.5 million refugees are still in neighboring countries, the majority of whom are Hutus.

PRC: South African Decision on Taiwan Ties Not To Affect HK Links

HK0306072396 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 1 Jun 96 p 9

[By Vivien Pik-Kwan Chan]

[PTS Transcribed Text for FBIS] The South African Government has pledged to maintain its links with Hong Kong no matter what decision it makes on diplomatic ties with Taiwan and mainland China.

The Foreign Affairs Department denied a report in the South African press that China has threatened to shut Pretoria's Hong Kong diplomatic office and cancel South African Airways' [SAA] landing rights if Pretoria failed to sever its links with Taiwan.

"It is incorrect. China has neither threatened to close South Africa's office, nor cancel SAA's landing rights."

The report and denial comes at a sensitive time with Beijing and Taipei vying for diplomatic relations with Pretoria. South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo has said Pretoria will decide on its diplomatic ties with Taiwan and mainland China within two months of his trip to Taiwan.

"South Africa's position in Hong Kong after July 1, 1997, is clearly defined by the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China," the Foreign Affairs Department said.

Article 157 of that law states that consular and other official missions established in Hong Kong by states which have no formal diplomatic relations with China may be permitted either to remain or be changed to semi-official missions, it said.

The Basic Law makes provision for the continued presence of the South African Government in Hong Kong, regardless of whether it switches its diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing.

"Air links and arrangements between Hong Kong and all other states that extend beyond July 1, 1997, are also provided for in the Basic Law, the department said.

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Chinese leaders have urged Pretoria to cut Taiwan links in favour of Beijing, saying it would be conducive to global development and peace.

South Africa is the largest of the 31 countries that recognise Taipei instead of Beijing as China's legal government.

Trade with China has soared to US$1.3 billion (HK$10.05 billion) in 1995 from US$14 million in 1991.

West Europe

PRC: CPPCC Vice Chairperson Meets British Delegation

OW0706072996 Beijing XINHUA in English 0641 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 7 (XINHUA) — Qian Zhengying, vice chairperson of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), met here today with British Liberal Democrat local government delegation led by Lord Tope.

During the meeting at the Great Hall of the People, Qian outlined China's reform and opening-up and China's economic construction as a whole.

She hoped that China and Britain would strengthen mutually- beneficial cooperation in economic, trade and other fields.

Lord Tope and his delegation arrived here Thursday on a 10-day visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries.

They will also tour Xian and Shanghai.

PRC: Finnish President, Zou Jiahua Discuss Bilateral Ties

OW0706043996 Beijing XINHUA in English 0237 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Helsinki, June 6 (XINHUA) — Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari said today that Finland wishes to boost relations with China, a large, populous country full of promise.

He told visiting Chinese Vice Premier Zou Jiahua that Finland hopes to become a long-term partner with China in a wide range of fields.

Ahtisaari said his visit to China in April reassured him that the 1.2 billion Chinese people could develop their country and that there is great potential to expand bilateral relations.

Zou hailed Ahtisaari's China visit as a great success, saying it has given fresh impetus to the development of good relations.

He said that Finland, with its advanced agriculture and industry, would be a complementary partner for China.

Zou arrived in Helsinki today after a three-day tour of Sweden.

PRC: German Foreign Ministry Says Tibet Integral Part of China

OW0606144196 Beijing XINHUA in English 1423 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bonn, June 6 (XINHUA) — Germany said Wednesday that Tibet is an integral part of China and vowed it would not allow any support for Tibetan separatists.

"In the German government's view, Tibet is an integral part of the Chinese territory," Foreign Ministry spokesman Martin Erdmann told reporters.

He made the remarks when asked about a so-called International Conference of Tibet Support Groups to be held in Bonn and organized by Germany's Friedrich Naumann Foundation.

Erdmann said: "In our view, there is no (Tibetan) government-in- exile. Because Tibet is an integral part of the Chinese territory.

"There is only one China and it is represented by Beijing," he added.

He continued, in accordance with the principle of the international law that there should be no interference in other countries' internal affairs and that all countries are equal, Germany is under an obligation not to allow any action that is likely to be interpreted as support for splittist activities of any other country.

PRC: Zou Jiahua, Swedish Prime Minister Discuss Ties 5 Jun

OW0506165696 Beijing XINHUA in English 1547 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Stockholm, June 5 (XINHUA) — Sweden pays close attention to China's development and expects bilateral trade and economic cooperation to expand, Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson said here today.

He made the remark during talks with visiting Chinese Vice Premier Zou Jiahua, who arrived Sunday [2 June] for a three-day visit.

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China and Sweden are ready to further economic and technical cooperation, Zou said, adding that the strengthening of cooperation is in the interests of the two countries and peoples.

At a meeting with Leif Pagrotsky, director of the prime minister's office, Zou said Sino-Swedish ties have developed well since the two sides established diplomatic relations over 40 years ago.

In the past few years, exchanges of high-level visits have been frequent, while the growth of trade and the pace of economic, scientific and technological cooperation have been satisfactory, he noted.

Pagrotsky said Sweden supports the lifting of trade quotas imposed on China by the European Union, and takes China's side in its efforts to join the World Trade Organization.

The Chinese vice premier also held separate talks with Parliamentary Speaker Birgitta Dahl [name as received] and Junior Minister for Foreign Trade Bjrn Von Sydow on the last day of his visit.

Zou stopped at Stockholm, Gothenburg and Ludvika during his tour, visiting several world-famous companies including Ericsson, Volvo and ABB.

He will leave for Finland this evening.

East Europe

PRC: Polish President Meets Li Lanqing

OW0106040696 Beijing XINHUA in English 0114 GMT 1 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Warsaw, May 31 (XINHUA) — Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski and visiting Chinese Vice-Premier Li Lanqing stressed today that there exists a great potential for further cooperation between their two countries.

Li, on an official visit here, called Poland China's "important cooperation partner" in central and eastern Europe, saying China is interested in cooperating with Poland in the realms of politics, economy, science and technology and culture.

Kwasniewski reiterated Poland's one-China policy and said his country is prepared to forge friendly and comprehensive cooperation with China in trade, economy, science and technology, arts and sports.

The two leaders also exchanged views on current international affairs and briefed each other on the reforms in their respective countries.

During his meeting with Grzegorz Kolodko, Polish deputy prime minister and finance minister, earlier today, the Chinese vice- premier said Sino-Polish cooperation should not be limited to trade.

Li discussed with Kolodko the possibility of cooperation in industry, technology and investment as well as in culture, science and education.

Kolodko said Poland will resort to more flexible measures to deal with the unresolved issues in the trade relations between the two countries in an effort to boost bilateral ties, especially economic and scientific cooperation.

The Chinese vice-premier is also to meet Polish Prime Minister Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz during his four-day visit.

PRC: Sino-Bulgarian Trade Promotion Group Launched

OW0406050196 Beijing XINHUA in English 0207 GMT 4 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sofia, June 3 (XINHUA) — The Bulgarian- Chinese Economic Relations Promotion Association was launched here today to boost the bilateral trade of the two countries.

Georgi Bulakieu, chairman of the newly established group, said the association is aimed at increasing contacts and understanding between the countries' companies and enterprises.

The association, a non-profit organization, will use its membership fees and donations from businesses to promote economic cooperation between the countries.

Bulakieu said the association was sponsored by the Bulgarian- Chinese Friendship Union and the Bulgarian-Chinese friendship group in the National Assembly (parliament).

The volume of Sino-Bulgarian trade stood at 52.12 million U.S. dollars in 1995, following a sharp drop from the previous year.

Latin America & Caribbean

PRC: Central Military Commission Leader Meets Ecuadoran Visitors

OW0506121596 Beijing XINHUA in English 1143 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 5 (XINHUA) — Zhang Wannian, vice-chairman of China's Central Military Commission, met here today with Paco Rosendo Moncayo, commander general of the Army of Ecuador, and his party.

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Zhang said that with the smooth development of the Sino-Ecuadoran ties since the two countries established diplomatic relations in the 1980s, progress has been made in the cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries.

The exchanges of visits by senior officers of the two armed forces will further mutual understanding, he said, adding that the current China visit by Moncayo would spur the development of the ties between the two armed forces.

The Ecuadoran visitors are here at the invitation of the Headquarters of the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army.

PRC: PLA Chief of General Staff Meets Ecuadoran Army Visitor

OW0606142896 Beijing XINHUA in English 1346 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 6 (XINHUA) — General Fu Quanyou, chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), tonight met Paco Rosendo Moncayo, commander general of the Army of Ecuador.

China attaches importance to developing friendly relations of cooperation with Ecuador, Fu said. He added that the relations between the two countries, as well as the two armed forces have seen a sustained development and frequent exchange of visits by top officers of the two sides, since China and Ecuador forged diplomatic ties in 1980.

He expressed his appreciation at Ecuador's principled stance on the Taiwan issue, and briefed the visitor on China's reform and opening-up drive as well as China's defence policy.

Moncayo said that Ecuador pays close attention to China's development and admires the achievements China has made.

Ecuador is willing to expand the friendly relations of cooperation between Ecuador and China, as well as between the two armed forces, he added.

The Ecuadoran visitor arrived in Beijing on Tuesday at the invitation of the Headquarters of the General Staff of the PLA.

PRC: CPC Delegation Arrives in Brazil for 12-Day Visit

OW0706053696 Beijing XINHUA in English 0416 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Rio De Janeiro, June 6 (XINHUA) — A delegation from the Communist Party of China (CPC) arrived here today for a 12-day visit, to promote mutual understanding and cooperation between China and Brazil.

The visit is expected to improve bilateral relations and economic and trade cooperation, specially between Brazil and China's southern province of Guangdong, said a delegation member, Li Beihai, who is deputy head of the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the CPC.

During the visit, the Chinese delegation will meet with Brazilian Vice-president Marco Marciel, Senate President Jose Sarne and the president of the Chamber of Deputies, Luiz Eduardo Magalhaes.

The Chinese delegation, headed by Xie Fei, member of the Political Bureau of Central Committee of the CPC and secretary of the Guangdong Provincial Party Committee, arrived in Brazil at the invitation of the Liberal Front Party and the Brazilian Democratic Labor Party.

The delegation will also visit Sao Paulo and Salvador, an eastern port and capital of the state of Bahia, before going on to Uruguay and Argentina.

PRC: Trade Minister Starts Trip to 7 Latin American Nations

OW0606082996 Beijing XINHUA in English 0752 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 6 (XINHUA) — Chinese Foreign Trade Minister Wu Yi, heading a Chinese government economic and trade delegation, left here today for a month-long visit to Cuba, Mexico and other five Latin American nations to explore new ways for furthering its trade and economic ties with those countries.

This will be the largest team ever led by a Chinese foreign trade minister to the region, an official with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (Moftec) said.

The other five countries the delegation will visit are Brazil, which is China's biggest trade partner in the region, Peru, Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay.

The move is just part of China's effort in implementing its policy of market diversification for its foreign trade, the official said.

Wang Zhiquan, director of the Moftec's American and Oceania Affairs Department, said that China attaches great importance to developing its mutually-beneficial trade and economic cooperation with Latin American countries, which have been advancing at a quick pace since the early 1990s.

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According to the Chinese customs, trade volume between China and the region last year rose by 30 percent to 6.11 billion US dollars, making up 2.1 percent and 1.3 percent of their total foreign trade volume respectively.

Great potentials are yet to be tapped for further developing trade and economic cooperation between China and Latin American countries as their economies are strongly complementary to each other, Wang said.

He expressed the belief that Wu's visit will serve to promote mutual investment between China and the region while enhancing bilateral trade ties.

According to Wang, Chinese enterprises have launched 160 solely invested business or joint ventures in 24 countries and areas in the region, with an actual investment of 300 million US dollars, while businesses funded by Latin American countries in China have numbered nearly 200, with an actual investment of 300 million US dollars.

PRC: Foreign Trade Minister Meets With Jamaican Delegation

OW0406131396 Beijing XINHUA in English 1233 GMT 4 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 4 (XINHUA) — Chinese Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Wu Yi said today that the Chinese government encourages Chinese entrepreneurs to invest in Jamaica and conduct all kinds of economic and trade cooperations there.

She made the remark in Beijing in a meeting today with Seymour Mullings, Jamaica's deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and foreign trade.

The two ministers exchanged views on the expansion of bilateral economic and trade collaboration during the meeting.

Mullings expressed his thanks for China's support to Jamaica and told Wu that Jamaica welcomes Chinese entrepreneurs to invest in the country.

Mullings is here on a visit to China as guest of his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen.

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Political & Social

PRC: Current Situation in Customs Protection of IPR, Part 1

HK0706091496 Beijing RENMIN RIBAO OVERSEAS EDITION in Chinese 3 Jun 96 p 3

[Article from "Intellectual Property Rights in China" column by staff reporter Ji Xiaolei (1323 2556 4320): "Entering a New World— Current Situation of Chinese Customs Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (Part One)"]

[PTS Translated Text for FBIS] *This article gives a brief account of how things stand with intellectual property rights [IPR] protection provided by Chinese Customs. The account comprises three parts: The process of legislation for protection; organization and training; and achievements scored in protecting IPR. The materials and data cited in this article were provided by the General Administration of Customs of the PRC, Guangdong Customs, Qingdao Customs, and Shanghai Customs. We hereby express our thanks to all of them.*

Since Chinese customs officers declared war on imports and exports infringing IPR, China's endeavor to protect IPR has taken on a new dimension.

From September 1994 until now, Chinese Customs have made intense efforts to increase border protection for IPR, unearthing 1,000 piracy cases. In the meantime, they have specially explored the legal standards for IPR protection by Customs, and formally promulgated and put into effect the "Regulations of the PRC on Customs Protection for Intellectual Property Rights," which measures up to international standards. Now, the awareness of the need for Customs protection for IPR has increasingly struck root in the hearts of the people and Chinese Customs have been stepping up their efforts in protecting IPR and in giving publicity to IPR protection.

Chinese customhouses' efforts in this respect must not be ignored and the achievements they have made are eye-catching.

The Process of Legislation

In less than one year in the 1994-95 period, China promulgated a series of provisional measures for IPR protection at the borders and finally formulated a fairly complete legal system for Customs protection for IPR.

On 5 July, the State Council made a decision on increasing IPR protection, calling for strengthening Customs functions in protecting IPR as well as necessary measures to effectively ban the import and export of pirated goods.

On 23 August 1994, the General Administration of Customs issued an announcement that no import or export of pirated goods is allowed and that customhouses have the right to reject goods suspected of copyright infringement.

On 5 December 1994, the General Administration of Customs issued an emergency circular on strengthening Customs protection for IPR, calling for confiscation and destruction of pirated CD's. If customhouses cannot confiscate the pirated goods they have detained according to the Customs statutes, they can do so in conjunction with the department responsible for IPR protection.

On 5 May 1995, the General Administration of Customs issued a second announcement, making public the State Council's approval on authorizing Customs to confiscate and dispose of goods infringing upon copyright and exclusive trademark rights. On 5 July 1995, Premier Li Peng signed a State Council order to publish the "Regulations of the PRC on Customs Protection for Intellectual Property Rights," which came into force on 1 October. On 28 September the same year, the General Administration of Customs promulgated the "Measures of the PRC Customs for Intellectual Property Rights Protection," which also came into effect on 1 October.

The promulgation and implementation of the "Regulations of the PRC on Customs Protection for Intellectual Property Rights" indicates that the legal system concerning Chinese Customs protection for IPR is almost complete and that Chinese Customs protection for IPR is moving toward standardization and has begun to converge with international practice. The legal document, which consists of six chapters covering 11 pages, states in detail the coverage of the Customs protection (exclusive trademark rights, copyright, and patent rights); the procedure for IPR holders to apply for registration of their rights; the procedure for applying to the customhouse at the border where goods are imported or exported to take protection measures; how the customhouse should conduct investigations and handle cases; and the customhouse's legal responsibilities.

Some experts maintain that the "Regulations of the PRC on Customs Protection for Intellectual Property Rights" is a legal document starting from a high point, that it is on a par with similar international statutes, and that it is a law which entirely converges with international practice. In this sense, China took only two years to cover a path which had taken other, developed countries 20 years.

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PRC: Current Situation in Customs Protection of IPR, Part 2

HK0706091696 Beijing RENMIN RIBAO OVERSEAS EDITION in Chinese 4 Jun 96 p 3

[Article from "Intellectual Property Rights in China" column by staff reporter Ji Xiaolei (1323 2556 4320): "Entering a New World— Current Situation of Chinese Customs Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (Part Two and Conclusion)"]

China's Customs have attached great importance to the organization work of protecting intellectual property rights [IPR]. From the General Administration of Customs [GAC] to the basic-level Customs at all localities nationwide, there are special organs and personnel responsible for IPR protection. The special organs are responsible for the border IPR protection work of the Customs under their jurisdiction, handling inquiries by copyright holders, and providing information feedback and setting up a database for the implementation of IPR protection. Customs nationwide, from the General Administration of Customs to the basic-level Customs, have established a supervisory network for implementation at every level and have initially set up an effective IPR protection system at the borders, which is moving in the direction of institutionalization and standardization.

In order to increase the sense of IPR protection and law- enforcement of all Customs officials, Customs at all levels in China have conducted training and propaganda through various channels and methods.

Since the latter half of 1994, the GAC has conducted a number of short-term training classes at Shanghai, Qingdao, and Suzhou Customs, training more than 300 officers. U.S. Customs, French Customs, Hong Kong Customs, and the World Customs Organization have dispatched experts to give lectures at the training classes. After the training given by the GAC, the core members returned to their posts and offered training to other staff members. To date, the principal officers of Customs nationwide have all undergone training. Customs in Shanghai and Shantou have also invited law professors of the local universities to give lectures on IPR. Guangdong Customs organized the Guangdong-Hong Kong IPR Protection Symposium in November 1995.

Peng Xiaohui, deputy director of the Guangdong branch of the GAC, told this reporter with pride that a sense of IPR protection has struck root in the hearts of all Customs officers.

Achievements of Law-Enforcement

From September 1994 to the end of last year, Customs nationwide handled 1,084 cases of materials and import and export goods involving copyright infringements with a value of 10.45 million yuan. Of these, Customs took the initiative to handle 1,055 cases, accounting for 97.3 percent, while 29 cases were handled on the basis of applications submitted by the copyright holders, accounting for 2.7 percent. Of these cases, 58 involved copyright infringements and 10 patent infringements. Viewed from the angle of the cases handled, Guangdong Customs handled the largest number, totaling 1,071; Shanghai Customs handled 11 trademark infringements; and Qingdao Customs also handled a number of cases.

Since the "Regulations" came into effect on 1 October 1995, the GAC has started accepting applications submitted by copyright holders, and Customs at all levels have received applications requesting protection measures. To date, the GAC has received more than 120 applications. Of the applications submitted by copyright holders, it is noteworthy that most are domestic enterprises and only a small number are foreign companies. On the one hand, this shows that domestic copyright holders have increased their sense of seeking Customs protection. On the other hand, it is hard to understand the passivity and tardiness manifested by foreign copyright holders in assisting Chinese Customs in protecting their rights and interests regarding imports and exports.

In the course of IPR protection at the border, Customs at all localities in China have strictly carried out administration in light of the law and impartially enforced the law. Assuming responsibility for the copyright holders who have submitted applications, they have handled all the cases placed on file and have won widespread acclaim from the copyright holders at home and abroad. The Guangdong Pharmaceutical and Health Products Import and Export Corporation, which is well-known in Southeast Asian markets for its Yangcheng-brand Chinese medicine, presented a banner to Guangzhou Customs in February 1996: "Protect IPR and promote the development of foreign trade." The assistant manager of the corporation said: Our company's goods were affected by counterfeit goods in the market abroad and the border protection offered by Customs has revitalized the company. Japan's Telisin [de li xin 1795 0448 0207] Electromechanical Shareholding Company, the first foreign company to file an application with Chinese Customs at the end of last year, sent a letter of gratitude to Guangdong Jiulong Customs on 15 April 1996. The company submitted an application requesting protection to Customs in Jiulong, Guangzhou, Huangbu, and Gongbei on 17 January 1996. After 20 days, the company received a notice from Jiulong Customs on recovery of

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goods suspected of infringing upon Telisin's intellectual property rights. In the letter of gratitude, Tanaka Shinshuki, legal representative of Telisin, said that Chinese Customs should be "highly praised for their efficient work." The behavior of Customs "proved China's determination to protect IPR."

Regarding Chinese Customs' IPR work, which has just started, the burden will be heavy and the road will be long when the work has embarked on a normal path. A senior Chinese Customs official said the other day that China will unswervingly strengthen IPR protection at the borders. This is required for maintaining the reputation of international trade, encouraging human creation and innovation, and helping domestic enterprises develop famous-brand products to compete in the international market. He called on the international community, particularly the developed nations, to sincerely offer aid to China in training and technical equipment. He said that every country has to undergo a process in IPR protection. On this question, any practice of nitpicking, taking a part for the whole, or exerting pressure will be useless. Sincere cooperation is the only way to promote IPR protection in China.

PRC: Report on Leadership Activities 31 May-6 Jun

OW0706063696

[FBIS Report] PRC media monitored by Okinawa Bureau from 31 May to 6 June carried the following reports on PRC Central leadership activities. The source is noted in parentheses after each report.

Peng Peiyun Writes Article on Chinese Government's Achievements in Child Protection and Development — In an article to be carried by the 1 June edition of the semimonthly ZHONGHUA YINGCAI [Chinese Talent], State Councillor Peng Peiyun notes that the Chinese Government has scored universally acknowledged achievements in child protection and development. She cites a number of examples and figures to substantiate her argument. (Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in Chinese 0440 GMT 31 May 96)

Liu Huaqing Chairs and Jiang Zemin Addresses Meeting Marking 60th Anniversary of Chinese People's Military and Political University of Resistance Against Japan; Zhang Wannian, Fu Quanyou, Wang Ke, Wang Ruilin and Others Attend Meeting — The Central Military Commission called a meeting in Beijing on 31 May to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Military and Political University of Resistance Against Japan. CPC General Secretary and President Jiang Zemin, who is also the chairman of the commission, made a keynote speech at the meeting. [full text of his speech filed as ow0306112596] Commission Vice Chairman Liu Huaqing presided over the meeting and called on the army to carry forward the spirit of the university and to seriously study Jiang Zemin's important speech. Zhang Wannian, Fu Quanyou, Wang Ke, Wang Ruilin, and others also attended the meeting. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1029 GMT 31 May 96)

Qiao Shi Pays Last Respect to Remains of Former Vice Education Minister, Hu Jintao, Li Lanqing, Li Tieying, Qian Qichen, Peng Peiyun, Gu Mu Express Condolences — The remains of former Vice Education Minister Li Qitao, who died of illness in Beijing on 17 May 1996 at 76, was cremated on 31 May. Qiao Shi, Wu Xueqian, and others paid last respect to Li's remains. Hu Jintao, Li Lanqing, Li Tieying, Qian Qichen, Peng Peiyun, and Gu Mu expressed condolences to Li's family. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1034 GMT 31 May)

Jiang Zemin, Li Peng Inscribe for Printing Museum, Li Tieying Attends Inauguration Ceremony — The Chinese Printing Museum's inauguration ceremony was held in Daxing County of Beijing Municipality on 1 June. CPC General Secretary Jiang Zemin and State Council Premier Li Peng wrote inscriptions for the museum. State Councillor Li Tieying and National People's Congress [NPC] Vice Chairman Tomur Dawamat attend the ceremony. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0813 GMT 1 Jun 96)

Li Ruihuan, Wang Zhaoguo Attend Forum Marking 60th Anniversary of Chinese People's National Salvation Association's Founding — A forum cosponsored by the CPC Central Committee United Front Work Department and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference [CPPCC] National Committee General Office was held on 1 June to mark the 60th anniversary of the Chinese People's National Salvation Association's founding. CPPCC National Committee Chairman Li Ruihuan, NPC Vice Chairman Cheng Siyuan, CPPCC National Committee Vice Chairmen Qian Weichang, Sun Fuling, and Wan Guoquan attended the meeting. At the forum, Wang Zhaoguo, vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee and head of the United Front Work Department, spoke on the association's glorious history and its legacy. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1251 GMT 1 Jun 96)

Reception Held To Celebrate 15th Anniversary of the CHINA DAILY's Founding — A reception was held on 1 June to celebrate the 15th birthday of the CHINA DAILY. Wang Guangying, Lei Jieqiong, Cheng Siyuan, Wu Jieping, Wan Guoquan, Sun Fuling,

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and others attended the reception. Entrusted by CPC Central Committee Propaganda Department Head Ding Guangen, Zeng Jianhui, director of the State Council Information Office, extended warm greetings to the CHINA DAILY. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1351 GMT 1 Jun 96)

Wu Bangguo Attends Qinshan Nuclear Power Plant's Project Construction Ceremony, Li Peng Sends Congratulations — A ceremony marking the beginning of the Qinshan Nuclear Power Plant's second- phase project construction was held in the construction site in Yangliu Mountains in Haiyan County, Zhejiang Province. State Council Vice Premier Wu Bangguo attended the ceremony and spoke on the importance of guaranteeing the safety of nuclear power plants. Premier Li Peng sent congratulations to the ceremony. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1244 GMT 2 Jun 96)

Zhu Rongji Presents Economic Report to Academicians' Congresses of Chinese Academy of Sciences and Chinese Academy of Engineering — On 3 June, State Council Vice Premier Zhu Rongji presents to the Eighth Academicians' Congress of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Third Academician's Congress of the Chinese Academy of Engineering a report on the state's current economic situation, the state-owned enterprise reform, and progress in science and technology. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1040 GMT 3 Jun 96)

Wang Bingqian on Stronger Environmental Protection Law- Enforcement Supervision — The NPC Standing Committee's environmental protection law-enforcement inspection group began its inspection trip to Tianjin Municipality on 3 June. NPC Vice Chairman Wang Bingqian called for stronger environmental protection law-enforcement supervision when hearing reports presented by relevant officials of Tianjin. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1314 GMT 3 Jun 96)

Zhu Rongji Makes Hospital Visit — Fang Muhan, former vice minister of the State Planning Commission, died of illness on 19 May aged 79. Vice Premier Zhu Rongji visited him at the hospital during his illness. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 2108 GMT 4 Jun 96)

Jiang Zemin Inscribes for Li Weihan's Statue — A meeting was held in Changsha County in Hunan Province on 5 June to mark the centennial birthday of late Comrade Li Weihan and the inauguration of his bronze statue. CPC General Secretary Jiang Zemin wrote inscriptions for the statue. State Councillor Li Tieying and more than 500 people attended the meeting. Wang Zhaoguo, vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee vice and head of the CPC Central Committee's United Front Work Department, and Hunan Provincial Party Secretary Wang Maolin unveiled the statue. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0758 GMT 5 Jun 96)

Peng Peiyun On Farmers Spiritual Health — On 5 June, State Councillor Peng Peiyun attended a meeting to exchange experience on promoting the spiritual health of the nation's 900 million farmers. She pointed out the need to promote a healthy and scientific life style. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service In Chinese 0938 GMT 5 Jun 96)

Li Peng, Zhu Rongji, Li Guixian Greet Accountants Meeting — China's Accountants Congress opend on 5 June in Beijing. Premier Li Peng sent an inscription which reads "the importance of accounting grows with the development of the market economy." Vice Premier Zhu Rongji stressed the need to greatly promote the cause of accounting, saying it plays an important role of helping build a socialist market economic system. State Councillor Li Guixian also attended the meeting. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1006 GMT 5 Jun 96)

Li Ruihuan Mourns Death Of Lu Rongshu — Li Ruihuan expressed sympathy to the family members of comrade Lu Rongshu, a member of the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee, who passed away on 27 May aged 76. (Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1131 GMT 6 Jun)

Zou Jiahua Sends Inscription — A meeting to mark the fifth anniversary of the enforcement of the management provisions on the encouragement of the use of new building materials was held in Shanghai on 31 May. Vice Premier Zou Jiahua and Shanghai Mayor Xu Kuangdi sent inscriptions to the meeting. (Shanghai Radio In Mandarin 2300 GMT 31 May 96)

Li Guixian Addresses S & T Meeting — On 4 June, State Councillor Li Guixian spoke at the opening of a training class for provincial- level cadres on the acceleration of the transformation of scientific and technological results. He called for accelerating the pace of transforming scientific and technological results. (Beijing Central People's Radio Network in Mandarin 1030 GMT 4 Jun 96)

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PRC: Legal Aid System Discussed

HK0706060696 Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 14 May 96 p 9

[Article by Xiao Yang (5135 2254): "Establish a Legal Aid System with Chinese Characteristics"]

[PTS Translated Text for FBIS] The "Outline" passed by the Fourth Session of the Eighth NPC noted that the overall goal of our country's social development is to maintain social stability, promote social progress and actively promote social justice, security, civilization, and health. In order to promote the realization of this overall goal, in accordance with China's actual situation, establishing a legal aid system with Chinese characteristics is an important task for judicial administrative organs both now and in time to come.

Establishing a Legal Aid System Is a Sign of the Civilized Progress of a Modern Society

Legal aid is a legal system by which the state provides legal assistance at reduced cost or free to a party who is involved in a legal case and who is in economic difficulties, or when there are special circumstances. The legal aid system first appeared in Western societies. Such a system has, as preconditions, a quite complete state legal system and the existence and development of a system of lawyers. However, in Western society, legal service, like other social services, stresses market patterns of "exchange of labor at equal value." The lawyers provide legal service with the aim of obtaining corresponding remuneration. Thus, the majority of those who enjoy the services of lawyers are the wealthy class in society. The poor basically have no way to enjoy the services of lawyers. Following the appearance of the capitalist production modes and the occurrence of social changes, the newly-emergent bourgeoisie, in order to accord with the demands of development of the commodity economy, to a certain degree implemented their own promise of "equality," and actively supported the establishment within the relevant legal systems of a system which gave legal aid to poor people. After the middle of the 19th century, the system of legal aid was successively established in virtually all capitalist countries. After World War II, the former Soviet Union and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe all wrote the principle of legal aid into their constitutions.

Objectively, the establishment of legal aid systems in Western countries was a rejection of the privilege in legal service enjoyed by the feudal landlord class. It was a manifestation of the civilized progress of modern society and undoubtedly had a progressive significance in history. The establishment and implementation of the legal aid system plays a positive role in respect of improving the legal system mechanism, realizing the management function of law within society, and expanding the scope over which law can regulate social relations, promote the realization of the legal relations sought by the ruling class, and ameliorate social contradictions. *However, essentially, the legal aid provided to poor people in Western countries is a requirement for safeguarding the overall interests of the bourgeoisie and consolidating the state organs of the bourgeoisie. It does not change the class nature of capitalist law in safeguarding the interests of the propertied class. The legal aid system cannot turn capitalist law into a tool which widely safeguards the interests of the broad number of poor people.* In fact, in capitalist countries, the phenomenon whereby poor people cannot get lawyers and cannot afford to initiate a law suit still widely exists.

Establishing a Legal Aid System That Is in Accord With China's National Conditions Is a Requirement for Developing Socialist Democracy and Perfecting the Socialist Legal System

Prior to the establishment of New China, China had lawyers in only a few major cities. These were all private operators who provided services for a fee. Thus there was no way to even think about the government establishing a legal aid system. After the founding of the PRC, although our country did not establish legal aid as a complete legal system, some basic contents relevant to legal aid were manifested in related laws and regulations. For example, the "Provisional Regulations on Lawyers' Fees" which were promulgated by the Ministry of Justice in October 1956 stipulated the scope of specific cases where legal assistance in terms of exemption from or reduced legal fees would be provided. From 1979 onwards, various laws and regulations were successively promulgated and implemented, including the "Criminal Procedure Law," "Civil Action Law," "Provisional Regulations Governing the Work of Lawyers," and the "Trial Regulations Governing Lawyers' Charges." All of these had some stipulations relating to legal aid. The implementation of these stipulations, under the historic conditions at that time, played a positive role in safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of those involved in legal cases, in accordance with the law. Following the continuous development of the socialist market economy, the various stipulations of a legal-aid nature which are spread throughout various relevant laws are no longer in accord with the demands of strengthening the building of socialist democracy and a socialist legal system, and of guaranteeing the democratic rights and interests, personal rights and interests, and other legitimate rights and interests of citizens. Establishing and perfecting our

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country's legal aid system is an essential requirement of the socialist system and is also a concrete manifestation of the development of socialist democracy and the perfecting of the socialist legal system.

First, it manifests practical state guarantees in respect of the rights and interests which the law gives to citizens. In the new situation where a socialist market economy and socialist democratic politics are being developed, following the promulgation and implementation of a large volume of laws and regulations, the political rights and interests, economic rights and interests, and other social rights and interests of citizens have become increasingly wide-ranging. There has also been a corresponding and unprecedented increase in disputes over rights and interests, and a large number of disputes relating to rights and interests have had to be resolved through non-court or court methods. However, as some citizens lack funds to employ a lawyer to provide legal assistance when they face a legal dispute, there exists a contradiction between the equality in terms of legally-stipulated rights and interests and the inequality in terms of the economic conditions necessary to guarantee the realization of those rights and interests. Our country is a socialist society, and all the rights and interests of the state belong to the people. This determines that the state should provide legal aid to those persons involved in legal cases and who are in economic difficulty, so as to guarantee the realization of their legitimate rights and interests. The establishment of a legal aid system is a concrete measure adopted by the state to eliminate this phenomenon of inequality which actually exists, to perfect on the judicial system level a democratic procedural mechanism, and to guarantee the realization of the principle of equality of all people in the face of the law.

Second, it provides a practical guarantee that the parties involved in a lawsuit enjoy rights and interests in accordance with the law, and guarantees the fairness of the judicial process. The fairness of the judicial process is an important part of and basic guarantee for social justice, and is also a basic principle and precondition by which the judicial organs accurately determine the facts of a case and correctly apply the law. When the judicial organs are handling a legal case, and especially when handling a criminal case, the accused is in a special position. Often because the accused lacks legal knowledge and his personal freedom is restricted, he cannot well protect his own legitimate rights and interests. Thus, it is necessary to have a lawyer who has legal knowledge and has specialized court skills to provide legal assistance. If the accused in criminal cases are economically- deprived, they will be unable to bring together all the evidence demonstrating their innocence or details of mitigating circumstances. Thus, it will not be possible to fully guarantee that he enjoys procedural rights in accordance with the law. It will likewise be disadvantageous to the judicial organs in accurately determining the facts of the case and in correctly applying the law. As far as people involved in legal cases are concerned, if they are unable to obtain the services of a lawyer, what they might lose is only their own due legitimate rights and interests. As far as the state is concerned, what it will lose is the principle and image of judicial fairness. Establishing a legal aid system and providing reductions or exemptions of the cost of hiring a lawyer for those who are involved in legal cases and are in economic difficulty, will make up for this deficiency, and manifest how the state, on the systems level, truly guarantees the human rights of those involved in legal cases, and guarantees the realization of the principle of judicial fairness.

Third, it perfects the social security system, and guarantees social stability and the smooth implementation of economic structural reform. The "Outline" points out that relevant policies formulated during the period of the Ninth Five-Year Plan truly guarantee the legitimate rights and interests of women, children, old people, the disabled and other special social groups. Following the establishment and improvement of the socialist market economy structure, and the increasing completeness of the legislative aspects of the various elements of the social security system, the interests demands and disputes among the special social groups mentioned above will inevitably be increasingly manifested in a court or non-court form. However, because these special social groups are economically rather poor, or have no power to safeguard their own legitimate rights and interests, as soon as a dispute which must be settled through the court or otherwise occurs, they will need legal aid. In this sense, establishing a legal aid system will be beneficial to perfecting the social security mechanisms, to promoting the smooth implementation and ordered operation of economic and social reform measures, and to effectively resolving interests disputes and social contradictions, and guaranteeing social stability.

Fourth, it will perfect the legal system and guarantee the realization of legally-stipulated social relations. Laws are the standards for regulating social relations. However, the stipulating of laws does not automatically give rise to the practical social relations. The establishment and implementation of a legal aid system not only involves providing legal assistance at reduced fees or gratis to someone who is involved in a legal case; but also in trying to avoid, to the greatest possible degree, "dead spots" in legal adjustment and standardization, so as to truly guarantee the realization of the social rela-

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tions stipulated by the law. If in society a large number of citizens are unable, because of economic difficulties, to obtain due legal assistance, then even if the laws provide more overall and concrete stipulations in respect of citizen's rights and interests, it will have no real significance, and the authority of law and the social functions and value of law will be greatly discounted. In this sense, establishing a legal aid system is an indispensable aspect in perfecting the legal system.

Basic Concept of Establishing a Legal Aid System That Accords With China's National Conditions

In establishing China's legal aid system, on the one hand it is necessary to borrow and learn from the general principles seen in the patterns of legal aid in various countries around the world. On the other hand, it is also necessary to proceed from the actual situation of our country, sum up the practical experiences of the past, and actively explore and perfect the basic framework of our country's legal aid.

On the contents of legal aid. In respect of the contents of legal aid, the various countries have both a broad definition and a narrow definition. The broad definition of legal aid includes, apart from legal aid in respect of lawyers, reduction in or remission of court costs. The narrow definition is restricted to reduction in or remission of lawyers' charges. In our country, court costs are reduced or remitted on the basis of the economic situation of the person involved in the legal case and the various levels of courts have, through many years of experience, formed a quite complete court case fees reduction or remission system. Thus, the reduction or remission of lawsuit fees for people who are involved in legal cases is not included within the scope of legal aid, and will continue to be implemented as at present. At present, the major issue is to resolve the problem of legal aid in respect of lawyers' charges. This includes legal aid for court proceedings and legal aid for non-court proceedings. In addition, it is a requirement of China's national conditions that non-court work, including the notarization of legal actions and legal facts and the large volume of legal services in grassroots townships and small towns, should come within the scope of legal aid.

On the targets of legal aid. The various countries stipulate that the main legal aid recipient targets are natural persons, while some countries also allow corporate bodies to receive legal aid. Seen from China's national conditions, the recipient targets should include both natural persons and corporate bodies. Including corporate bodies as legal aid recipient targets will be beneficial to resolving the problem whereby many enterprises are in poor economic straits but require legal assistance. It will be particularly beneficial to some state-owned and collective enterprises which are in serious economic difficulties and which experience legal wrangles in their production operations. This will stabilize economic order, ensure that economic relations are regulated in accordance with the law, alleviate social contradictions, and guarantee social stability. As to whether foreigners should be able to enjoy legal aid in China, this question is quite complex. We believe that it might be considered extending legal aid to any foreigners who are charged in criminal cases and who are in economic difficulties, as this involves the fair implementation of our country's criminal law. In respect of persons involved in civil litigation or administrative suits, if the persons are in economic difficulties, the funds for legal aid should be provided by the country of which they are a national, or the relevant fees should be reduced or remitted in accordance with a judicial assistance agreement signed between the two countries. In fixing the economic income level which determines whether persons are entitled to legal aid, in principle the minimum wage level set by the local government should be taken as the standard.

On the scope of legal aid. The stipulations of the various countries in this respect are not exactly the same. Seen from the actual situation of our country, it might be considered fixing the scope of legal aid as follows: In cases involving children, the disabled or the elderly who do not have the ability to defend themselves and cases pursuing tort compensation; the seeking of alimony, child support funds, or support and assistance funds; the seeking of compensation as a result of injuries suffered while on official business (except in cases of personal negligence); the seeking of workers' compensation and disability pensions; the notarization of alimony and support agreements and notarization relevant to the drawing of disability pensions and relief funds; cases where the democratic rights of citizens have been violated (such as the illegal expropriation of the right to vote or the right to be elected); cases where there is the possibility of a sentence of capital punishment being imposed and where the accused does not have a counsel; other instances where there is a need to provide legal aid.

On the source of funds for legal aid. All countries without exception supported this work from allocations by the government. As our country's legal aid is mainly a government activity, the necessary funds should in principle be included in the annual financial expenditure budgets of the various levels of government, and each year a special allocation for legal aid funds should be made, so as to manifest the state bearing its responsibility to those who need such aid. Legal aid is also a type of social public welfare undertaking. Proceeding

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from our country's reality, we might consider setting up a specialized fund for use in legal aid, which will also receive donations from citizens and units which are enthusiastic about this undertaking. Such donations will be accepted from those at home and those abroad. In addition, those areas with the conditions could take a certain proportion from the membership fees of the lawyers' association as a legal aid fund, so as to demonstrate that the lawyers' associations are shouldering their due responsibilities toward society.

Establishing a legal aid system is a new undertaking for our country. We must proceed from reality, develop experimental work points in a down-to-earth way and gradually seek out an operational mechanism, organizational and management measures, and a structural set-up which manifest the characteristics of our country's national conditions and are also in accord with the general patterns of legal aid.

Military & Public Security

PRC: Armed Police Join Crackdown To Preserve Social Stability

OW0606231796 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0750 GMT 5 Jun 96

[By reporter Tan Daobo (6223 6670 0590): "The Armed Police Corps Takes an Active Part in Crackdown"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing, 5 Jun (XINHUA) — Officers and men of the Armed Police Corps have taken up the duty of searching, surrounding, arresting, and eliminating criminals in the current crackdown, thus playing an important role in preserving social stability and winning appreciation from local leaders and public security departments.

The Armed Police Corps Party Committee, in accordance with central instructions, made arrangements in early and late April asking officers and men in affiliated units to take an active part in the current crackdown. Armed police forces in provinces, municipalities, and autonomous regions adjusted their work arrangements and dispatched crack troops to the "forefront," apart from formulating programs in accordance with the requirements of local governments and public security departments. According to statistics by the relevant department, so far armed police units have conducted almost 10,000 instances of crackdown either independently or in cooperation with public security departments; they have satisfactorily completed their tasks.

In the severe crackdown, officers and men of armed police forces in all localities fear no sacrifice and fight heroically day and night. On the night of 28 April, two suspects of an exceptionally big gun robbery case on the wanted list of the Public Security Ministry were fleeing toward Shaanxi with guns and more than 1,000 rounds of ammunition. Upon receipt of the provincial public security department's information that night, the Shaanxi Armed Police Force immediately set up roadblocks on the roads from Henan and Shanxi to Shaanxi. After carefully checking suspicious passers- by for two days and one night, officers and men of the armed police force finally found the two suspects amid boundless numbers of travelers and arrested them without firing a single shot. On 27 May, three gangsters opened fire at two public security policemen in Ala township, Shule County of Xinjiang's Kashi Prefecture. Upon receipt of the public security department's notice, the Xinjiang Armed Police Force immediately dispatched officers and men to the scene to participate in arresting the suspects, and they soon arrested them. In May, the Zhejiang and Guangdong Armed Police Forces undertook an important task of transporting criminals under the unified plan of public security and judicial departments. Their officers and men ate and slept in the open and traveled thousands of km, remarkably fulfilling their task. The relevant departments spoke highly of their effective support for the current crackdown.

In the course of participating in the severe crackdown, armed police officers and men stationed in all parts of the country have remained firm at their posts and conducted armed patrol in big and medium-sized cities, thus safeguarding the security of all important sites and preserving social stability.

PRC: Various Counties, Cities in Hubei Execute Criminals

SK0606124696 Wuhan Hubei People's Radio Network in Mandarin 1000 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the efforts of courts in Wuhan to sentence and execute a number of serious criminals in mid-May, courts in Xiaogan, Enshi, Jingmen, Ezhou, and Shiyan also meted out strict punishment recently to a number of serious criminals.

Eight counties and cities in Enshi Prefecture simultaneously held open trials on 28 May to mete out punishment to 129 serious criminals. Willful murderers (Hu Zhengwu), (Yang Shunyi) and (Ye Wenxiang); robber (Li Dechao); and criminal (Teng Jianchun), who was guilty of willfully injuring people, were sentenced to death in line with law.

The Jingmen City Court held also an open trial for 62 criminals. Seven criminals of a 26-member criminal clique engaged in bus and train marauding and waylaying were sentenced to death in line with law.

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Shiyan City also held open trials for 65 criminals. Eight counties and cities in Xiaogan Prefecture held open trials for 106 criminals on 29 May, sentencing 67 criminals to prison terms of five years or more. Willful murderer (Li Jieyin) and (Wang Zhongshu), bus bandit (Mao Fabin), habitual criminal (Liang Hongbin), and rapist (Liu Junming) were executed locally.

The Ezhou City Intermediate People's Court and the Echeng, (Huarong) and Liangzihu district courts jointly held an open trial on 29 May to sentence 66 criminals. Robbers (Liu Yuanpeng) and (Wang Nanjing); criminal (Zhang Ganfeng), who was guilty of robbery, rape, and theft; and (Chen Guijun), who was guilty of robbery and rape, were sentenced to death in line with law. They were escorted to the execution ground to be executed by firing squad.

PRC: Shandong Organizes Centralized Operations Against Crime

SK0606124896 Jinan Shandong People's Radio Network in Mandarin 2300 GMT 5 June 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Public security organs across the province recently organized a centralized operation against serious crime in line with the unified plan of the provincial party committee and government, and achieved major success during a designated period.

During this centralized crackdown operation, a great number of major criminal cases were cracked and a batch of major criminals were captured.

The Jinan Public Security Bureau captured bus bandits (Jiang Maoguo) and (Jiang Zhonghai), thereby cracking more than 10 cases of theft that occurred in long distance buses since last year.

Rizhao city public security organs cracked a case on planting a bomb to kill people in order to take revenge. Criminal (Zhang Fusong) was captured.

The (Shanping) District in Zaozhuang captured criminal (Qiao Bingde), head of a major human abduction and trading clique, who absconded for 6 years. This criminal successively abducted and sold more than 30 women in Henan and Sichuan, obtaining an illicit sum of more than 100,000 yuan.

A batch of major criminal cliques were smashed. The (Zhangdian) District in Zibo smashed a 17-member major hooligan criminal clique. Holding hunting guns and daggers, this clique successively raped seven women, injured 22 innocent people, kidnapped people, and extorted more than 100,000 yuan of cash from them.

Dongying and Shengli Oil Field public security organs ferreted out a robbery and theft ring composed of more than 10 persons.

This province also concentrated efforts to investigate and seize a great number of illegal firearms. The Zhucheng Public Security Bureau ferreted out a criminal clique engaged in manufacturing and selling firearms, capturing five criminals. Since 1986, this criminal clique has illegally manufactured more than 120 firearms and [words indistinct] of explosives.

During this centralized unified crackdown operation, public security organs received 7,712 criminal clues reported by the masses and captured 92 criminals. At the same time, 190 criminals voluntarily surrendered themselves to public security organs.

PRC: Satellite Location Police Vehicles Cruise Nanjing Streets

OW0606131496 Beijing XINHUA in English 1255 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nanjing, June 6 (XINHUA) — Forty police vehicles installed with satellite location devices now are patrolling the streets of Nanjing, the capital city of east China's Jiangsu Province.

With the new high-tech cars cruising the city's downtown areas, citizens in an emergency need only dial "110" — the national emergency alarm number — and within minutes the nearest police vehicle will rush to the scene.

In late May, 30 of the satellite patrol cars hit the streets as part of the national crackdown on crime.

Ten satellite location police vehicles were introduced into the city last October, and by the end of May, police operating the new cars had received 1,384 accident reports and captured 522 criminals.

PRC: Hubei Rectification Meeting Views Situations on Highways

SK0606124596 Wuhan Hubei People's Radio Network in Mandarin 1000 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The provincial unhealthy trend rectification leading group held a meeting on 4 June to define its tasks for improving the situation of random collection of tolls and fines and the establishing of checkpoints on highways, and proposed concentrated efforts be made to tackle these problems during the June-September period in order to guarantee the realization of the target of basically eliminating random situations on state and provincial highways.

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Li Daqiang, head of the provincial unhealthy trend rectification leading group, presided over and addressed the meeting. He stressed: Checking the random collection of tolls and fines and the establishment of checkpoints on highways is the most important task during the current unhealthy trend rectification campaign. Leaders at all levels should further enhance understanding, strictly enforce political discipline, and resolutely implement the guidelines of the State Council's relevant documents. Excerpt for communications, public security, and forestry departments which have been approved to establish checkpoints, all other departments and units are not allowed to check cars on the roads and to collect road tolls or fines under any excuse. Violators will be strictly punished and will not be treated softly. In the future, all localities, departments, and units will not have the right to approve the establishing of any forms of checkpoints on highways or rivers.

Entrusted by the provincial party committee and government, the provincial unhealthy trend rectification leading group will take full responsibility for examining and approving the establishing of checkpoints. In principle, no new checkpoints will be approved this year.

Li Daqiang pointed out: It is necessary to conscientiously examine, assess, and accept the work of basically eliminating random situations on state highways and provincial highways of prefectures, cities, autonomous prefectures, and counties. The state will notify the public in September of the first group of prefectures and cities where no random collection of tolls and fines and establishment of checkpoints are seen. We should begin before the others. Through inspections, assessments, and acceptance tests, we will notify the public in late July and mid-August about two groups of namelists of prefectures, cities, autonomous prefectures, and counties where no random situations are seen on state and provincial highways. When we make public the second group of namelists, we will also publish the namelist of prefectures, cities, autonomous prefectures, and counties where random situations on state and provincial highways are serious.

PRC: Shandong Holds Meeting on College Public Security

SK0706041196 Jinan Shandong People's Radio Network in Mandarin 2300 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The provincial meeting on comprehensive management of public security in universities and colleges was held in Jinan on 6 June. Attending the meeting were Li Wenquan, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee; Zhang Huilai, standing committee member of the provincial party committee and secretary of the political science and law commission under the provincial party committee; and Cui Weilin, vice chairman of the provincial committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and director of the provincial education commission.

Li Wenquan said: Since the beginning of last year, the situation in the province's universities and colleges can be considered stable. Along with the deepening of reform and opening up, however, big changes have taken place in the environment and public security situation inside and outside the campuses; and new contradictions and problems affecting the public security and political stability of universities and colleges have increased to some extent, some being extremely serious.

Li Wenquan said: In coordination with the ongoing campaign of dealing stern blows to serious criminal offenses, the commission for comprehensive management of social security under the CPC Central Committee, the State Education Commission, and the Ministry of Public Security have decided to launch, from May to July, a concentrative rectification of the public security and order in universities and colleges as well as their surrounding areas. They have also decided to formulate regulations, summarize experiences, and conduct examination and acceptance test for the rectification from July to October in order to consolidate the results achieved during the rectification. All localities and departments concerned should make rapid arrangements for launching the rectification in line with the public security characteristics of local universities and colleges. The various types of public security and criminal cases that infringe upon the personal security and interests of teachers and students should be investigated and handled as promptly as possible by public security organs. All levels of educational departments as well as all universities and colleges should strive to, through patient and painstaking work, eliminate in the bud various kinds of public security problems and instable factors.

Li Wenquan stressed: We must establish and perfect the regulations on management of campus order, management of extracurricular activities of students, and management of cultural and recreational facilities as well as commercial and service activities in campuses and their surrounding areas according to the pertinent laws. Meanwhile, we should pay attention to conducting propaganda and education of the legal system and further strengthen the building of the organs in charge of public security of universities and colleges and the building of security contingents within universities and colleges. Party committees and governments in all localities should incorporate the work on college public security and stability into the system that leaders assume responsibility for comprehensive management of public security and social order; and should assign this work to

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all levels by regarding it as a major criterion for assessing leaders' performance in safeguarding the security of localities.

PRC: Henan Military Leaders Celebrate Children's Day

SK0706104396 Zhengzhou HENAN RIBAO in Chinese 29 May 96 p 1

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] On the afternoon of 27 May, Wang Yingzhou, commander of the provincial military district, and Zhang Jianzhong, political commissar of the district, happily gathered under the same roof together with children of the nursery school under the district. [passage omitted]

***PRC: Military Journal on Conscription in 1990's**

96CM0328A Beijing GUOFANG [NATIONAL DEFENSE] in Chinese No 1 and No 2, 15 Jan, 15 Feb 96

[Article in two installments by Qiao Linsheng, staff reporter of JIEFANGJUN BAO, and edited by Wu Xixing: "Journal on PRC's Conscription in the 1990's"]

[15 Jan 96 pp 30-33]

[FBIS Translated Text] In November 1954, in order to solve the problem of recruiting soldiers, the young People's Republic of China adopted a significant measure to change the situation: Replacing the old system of voluntary military service by the new compulsory military service system. Since then, the conscription system has been practiced in China for a good 41 years. Trains of the era have sent batch after batch of young people, who are determined to join the Army and devote their lives to the motherland, to remote border areas, outlying islands, the north, the south, and the regions where national defense are most necessary; at the same time, batch after batch of soldiers who already fulfilled their obligations of defending the motherland have been sent back to their home towns.

Conscription is an undertaking both sacred and mysterious! When the long process of history entered the 1990's, what is the appearance of conscription in China, an undertaking full of ardent aspirations, hardships, and joy; a measure having a bearing on the safety and danger of the country as well as the happiness of the people; and a task contributing tremendously to the lasting peace of mankind?

The Project of National Defense Affects Millions Upon Millions of People

A large number of manpower and materials are put into conscription work every year, which affects various nerves and cells in society. From state leaders to ordinary people, every one has poured great enthusiasm into the work.

Each year, several hundred thousand enthusiastic sons and daughters of the republic, usually selected from millions upon millions of applicants, rush to various quarters of the motherland. They have to go through the procedures of signing up, taking vision tests and physical check-ups, and receiving political screening before they are notified of the results. In the meantime, a great number of people also spend days or weeks busying themselves with conscription work.

It is clear enough to look at the following two sets of figures: In receiving every 100 soldiers, the input of about 10 cadres for the reception is needed; in recruiting every 100 soldiers, more than 100 people from various departments are involved in the recruitment.

Over the past few years, I have been greatly moved every time conscription work was under way. I was moved by the personnel who were busy with the recruitment in the cold winter and, more deeply, by the fellow countrymen who selflessly supported their relatives to enter the career of servicemen.

Among them is an old man called He Kang, who has all along worked in the fields with his head facing the earth and his back exposed to the sun. His wife died a long time ago, so he and his only son have depended on each other for survival. Now his son has grown up, but He is suffering from cancer. As the son failed to enter a university after graduating from a senior high school, the old man encouraged him to join the Army. Knowing that his son was reluctant to leave him with such a serious illness, the old man quietly went to enter the name of his son for enlistment. To avoid affecting his son's emotional feelings during the physical check-up, the old man pretended to smile all day, saying: "My illness has been increasingly improving." Consequently, the son was able to leave home in his military uniform. After seeing off his son, the old man burst into tears in his cave dwelling. He cried in delight for his son, and in despair for his own adversity. His sorrowful cries spread far, far away in the wilderness of the cold winter.

Another event took place in Dongtai City, Jiangsu Province. Having passed his vision test, young applicant Chen Xuxing was notified to take a formal physical check-up on the 9th. Unexpectedly, his father died suddenly on the evening of 8th. The family was not well off as it used to be, and now only two women would be left at home if he joined the Army. Chen Xuxing decided to give up the opportunity and stay at home to look after the family. At this juncture, his sister Chen Ping tried hard to hold back her tears and repeatedly

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persuaded her younger brother by saying: "It has been our parent's long cherished wish that you perform your duty and dedicate yourself to the motherland so that we will be relatives of a soldier. Xiao Xing, you need not worry about us, because I can take care of everything at home!" Encouraged by his relatives, Chen Xuxing got through the physical examination and took up the fighting post of safeguarding the motherland.

People say that young couples passionately in love with each other think it too long to be separated for just a while. However, in response to the clarion call of the motherland, a girl "forced" her lover to take wing and fly away.

The girl is called Ma Juliang and her boyfriend is Liu Xiaoming. Having graduated from a high school in their home town in Sanming, Fujian, they went together to work in a garment company in Jinjiang. Under guidance of a famous instructor, they mastered the skill of clothes cutting in less than a year and their salaries exceeded 2,000 yuan each. In working and fighting together, their affection was in full bloom, and they were engaged in a ceremony held according to the customs of their home villages. On 5 November 1994, Ma Juliang learned the news of winter conscription from a newspaper. She hurried to her boyfriend with the newspaper and tried to persuade him to go home and sign up for the conscription. Unexpectedly, Xiao Liu had some sort of "small calculating" in his heart: They are going to be married after doing the current job for another three years so they can earn a certain amount of money and build a house of their own. However, Ma Juliang was not interested in his "design for the future." She said: "There are innumerable opportunities for earning money. As to the opportunity for enlisting for military service, there is only once in a lifetime. A man is shortsighted if he will not serve in the Army." She resolutely packed bags for him and obstinately "forced" him to the station, where she sent in an "ultimatum": "If you turn a deaf ear to me, then we have no alternative but to end our relationship!"

At last, Xiao Ming kissed her good-bye and took the journey to his future designed by his girlfriend.

In recent years, people who have become prosperous earlier than others also displayed the passionate, sincere, and selfless patriotic feelings of the Chinese nation. In the Zhu Jiang Delta area, tens of thousands of rich families took the lead in sending their children to join the Army; in the Fujian coastal area, thousands of business owners and managers mobilized their children to enlist for military service; in large cities such as Shanghai, Xian, Guangzhou, Wuhan, and so on, people from various social sectors who had become better off also vied with one another to dedicate themselves to the service of the motherland; and in Guizhou, Ningxia, and other localities, rich self-employed business owners signing up their children has become a common practice.

Here, we cannot help but mention the personnel who have been working faithfully and dutifully for the conscription and reception of the new recruits.

Here is a story set on 12 November 1992, the first day when applicants for recruitment were to undergo physical check-ups in the health center in Xiaosong Township, Jianou, Fujian Province. At 0730 local time, Chen Dazhuo, director of the township hospital, and Shen Decai, head of the township People's Armed Forces Department, were prepared to take applicants to the health center for physical check-ups. Suddenly they heard the clerk in reception shout out: "Director Chen, you are wanted on the phone. Your wife is calling from town."

Near the hospital office, people heard Chen Dazhuo speaking disjointedly in a low voice: "What... the physical check-ups have just begun... No... I cannot leave here... and Xiaoping must not go home either..." Having hung up the phone, Chen Dazhuo walked out from the office, looking very sad. Conscious of the inquiring looks on his colleagues' faces, he made an effort to appear as if nothing had happened. He asked them to get into the car and said: "Nothing has happened. Nothing has happened. Let us go!"

However, the mysterious telephone call just before the check-ups were going to begin became the subject of murmurs among the personnel in the health center.

It was not until 15 November when the physical check-up work was about to end and Chen's wife once again called from town to beg Department Head Shen to let her husband go home that the enigma was finally solved.

It turned out that Director Chen's mother-in-law passed away on 12 November. When she died, there were only Chen's wife and two children of his brothers-in-law at home. Both of his brothers-in-law were working in other places and were unable to return home at that moment.

That was why Chen's wife had to call him hurriedly and asked him and their son Chen Xiaoping to go home and help arrange the funeral. However, the township's check-up work had just begun. Chen Dazhuo was the leading surgeon and his son Chen Xiaoping was the chief physician in charge of the check-ups. If they went home, the work had to be postponed. Therefore, Chen Dazhuo tried hard to persuade his wife over the telephone to give up her wish that he and their son should return home. But, according to local customs, it

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is imperative for the son-in-law to attend his mother-in-law's funeral. Thinking that it would be to no avail if she asked Chen Dazhuo to comply with her request, she turned to Department Head Shen for help.

Under the order given by Department Head Shen, Chen Dazhuo got in a car and hastened home for the funeral of his mother-in-law.

Aspirations of the Ardent Sons and Daughters of Our Times

I dare say that no youth in a country ever exhibited their tremendous enthusiasm for military service as did the Chinese youth. Every time the State Council and the Central Military Commission make public the conscription order, millions upon millions of ardent sons and daughters of the motherland will plunge themselves into the billowing torrent of conscription.

The following are some scenes of conscription in the 1990's.

- The Sons Wandering About All Corners of the Land Have Returned Home

Among the innumerable young people from all walks of life who enthusiastically respond to the call for conscription, a considerable portion are the employees who left their home villages to work or do business in other places. They are distributed in all corners of the country, or even in foreign countries.

It is really not an easy job to bring them together and select the fine elements from them in a short period of time!

However, the call from the motherland has supreme authority. As soon as the conscription order spreads out in all directions through radio, press, and various disseminating media, they will vie with one another to come home like soldiers hearing the bugle call to charge, demonstrating their lofty realm of thought and emotional feelings of patriotism.

In Shandong Province, 230,000 workers hurried home from other provinces and eagerly registered for conscription.

In just a few days, some 100,000 original Sichuan residents returned to their home villages one after another from Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Haikou, Shanghai, Tibet, and other places to be recruited to the Army.

In Ankang area, Shaanxi Province, thousands of young workers hastened home on a starlit night to sign up for the conscription.

The conscription rate of the young people who are old enough to join the Army in Xinhui City, Guangdong Province exceeded 90 percent.

In Suining, Hunan Province, 300 employees gave up their jobs in business firms and entered their names for military service in just a couple of days....

Comrades from the Drafting Department under the Ministry of National Defense said: The awareness of serving in the Army according to the law has taken root in the minds of contemporary youth. Today, with the advance of the market economy, joining the Army is a fashion as well as an obligation.

Here, I should like to relate a story about an employee working in a business firm.

His name is Xu Guanghua, 20, from Changhu Village, Zhanghe Township, Huangmei County, Hubei Province. Two years ago, Little Xu graduated from a junior middle school and was employed by a certain unit in Shenzhen as a security guard. He was offered 800 yuan a month, and the working and living conditions were quite good. But, this young man from a peasant family had always cherished an ardent wish that he could one day join the Army to dedicate his life to the motherland. In the winter of 1992 and 1993, he twice returned from the distant work place to his home village to participate in the physical check-up for conscription. Although he passed the examination, his wish was not realized due to the limited number of candidates. In September 1994, before the conscription began, Little Xu once again wrote a letter to the person in charge of the people's government in his home village, expressing his thirst and determination to join the Army. Thinking that the letter in ink could not fully express his earnest feelings and firm determination, he resolutely bit his finger to write two letters in blood to the following effect: "With absolute sincerity I beg to be admitted to the Army to dedicate myself to the country so I will not regret in looking back at my whole life." The letters were sent to the person in charge of the home village's drafting office.

Finally, his green-barrack dream came true. He was admitted to be a sailor in the East China Sea Fleet.

Let us shift the scene from Hubei to Gansu.

On 24 November 1994, a jeep was surrounded by groups of people in Zhenqing County. Tightly gripping the hands of two cadres who came to receive the recruited soldiers, a young man implored piteously: "Please accept me as a new recruit. I passed the physical check-up. I will go with you under any circumstances this year. What will people think of me if I, a dignified man of five feet high, have not the opportunity to devote

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myself to safeguarding the motherland...?" With these words, he began to choke with sobs.

His name is Wei Jianhui, a young man of robust health and regular features, just fit for a soldier. He was also an employee of a business firm. For three consecutive years he signed up for the conscription, yet each time he was not accepted because of his age. He cried and fell sick over this. This year, he was the first person to enter his name for enlistment in the township People's Armed Forces Department. The day came when results were to be announced, he got up early in the morning and, after hurrying on the journey of over 30 km, he arrived at the county town to wait for the results. To his surprise, there were only 12 candidates to be enlisted from more than 30 applicants who had passed the physical check-ups in the entire township. Driven to desperation, he held back the jeep and poured out his heart. Moved by his sincerity, the cadres looked at one another and smiled. Finally, Little Wei's four-year dream of joining the Army was materialized.

The young workers' enthusiasm for signing up to join the Army is an epitome of the mental features of the patriotic youth in contemporary China.

- The Glory of the People in the Capital

Some people will, perhaps, think that because the workers' lives are turbulent and arduous, that is why they want to seek a good outlet by joining the Army. After I have narrated things that happened in the capital Beijing, you will come to the conclusion: Joining the Army is the lofty choice of the Chinese youth of the time. They choose it willingly and gladly, feeling that they will never regret it.

Li Ang is a freshman in the English Language Department of the Shoudu Foreign Languages Teachers College. Both his grandfathers were once deputy political commissars of the Navy, his parents are doctors working in large hospitals, and four uncles and three aunts of his are all senior intellectuals. Foreign language is a popular specialty now, his living environment and conditions are very good, yet he resolutely gave up his study to join the Army. His innermost thoughts are: "I chose the barracks and am duty-bound not to turn back, because in the barracks, there had been blood shed by the older generation of our grandparents and footprints of the generation of our parents in their struggle. This is the place that I have yearned for and pursued for years. I should serve in the Army for the sake of the country, the family, and myself." At this moment, Li Ang is conscientiously tempering himself in the barracks.

Let us be acquainted with Wu Yantao, a young man living in Guangnei Street, Xuanwu District, downtown Beijing. When his father died three years ago, his mother retired ahead of time so he could be admitted to her work unit and become the principal income earner of the family. Although Little Wu had a stable job, still his heart was in the green barracks. In 1993 when he was just old enough for enlistment, he signed up and went for the physical check-up. However, he did not pass the check-up because of the flower design tattooed on his arm. Out of curiosity, he learned from some adults and had his arm tattooed when he was in middle school. Of course, young people with tattoos are not allowed to join the Army. Little Wu felt anxious and excited, he cried and entreated the doctor to let him pass under his mercy. But, the stipulations on physical check-ups cannot be violated. He was quite upset for a long time and quietly cried several times. People comforted him saying: Though you cannot be a soldier, you can be a good worker! As always, his answer was: Come what may, I will be a soldier. In order to materialize his wish, he "took action" in the autumn before the winter conscription of 1994 began.

One day when his mother and brother were away from home, Little Wu took off his clothes, seized a knife which he had prepared earlier, and scraped the design on his arm despite the intense pain. One stroke, two strokes...blood flew out from under the skin, and beads of sweat came out on his forehead. He was only 19, and we do not endorse the way he treated himself. But, we cannot help saying: Wu Yantao, you are one of the fine youth in Beijing.

The tattooed design was removed, and there was a scar on the arm. Nonetheless, scars would not affect his chances of serving in the Army.

Little Wu was recruited and left Beijing. We believe that he certainly will be a qualified soldier.

Whether or not a young person at the right age for military service enthusiastically responds to the call of conscription is a yardstick judging whether or not he or she is allegiant to the motherland. Joining the Army to dedicate oneself to the motherland is the aspiration of the ardent youth of the times.

Zhang Jianhua is a young man from Shengshiying Village, Yongning Township, Yanqing County. When he received the notice that he passed the physical check-up sent by the town drafting office, he was immersed in the happiness that he was about to join the armed forces. All of a sudden, an unexpected misfortune befell him: His parents died in a car accident. Little Zhang was deeply grieved by this sudden blow. As his elder sister, who was studying in a technical secondary school, and his grandparents, quite advanced in years, would be left alone in the family, everybody thought that he would

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change his mind and stay at home. Their neighbors also tried to persuade him to give up his plan. But, Zhang Jianhua said calmly to the comrades in charge of the local conscription: "The misfortune of my parents' death is a vital issue to me, but compared with the issue of safeguarding the country's security, it is a minor issue. The difficulties facing my family can be overcome, so it is my unshirkable duty to serve in the Army according to the law."

A comrade in charge of the Beijing Municipal Drafting Office provided the following data to this writer: In 1994, the rate of applications for enlistment among young people in Beijing exceeded 90 percent; the rate of qualification in physical check-ups was 43 percent; there was greater room for selection, and the quality of new recruits was higher than in previous years. The municipal physical examination centers and political screening groups took 20 days to conduct sample surveys in 18 districts and counties under the municipal jurisdiction.

A total of 2,000 people were spot-checked, 99,9 percent of them passed the physical check-up and 100 percent passed political screening.

- The Grown Up "Little Emperors"

They are the only child in their respective families, and were born in an era in which they have been able to lead a relatively easy life and have been waited on hand and foot since a child. As they have no brothers or sisters, naturally they have been treasured like pearls and won the favor of all their parents and grandparents. Because they are products of their parents' compliance with the interests of the country, they have been given preferential treatment and love by society in various respects. Therefore, they are dubbed "little emperors" by people with a little helplessness and a little tenderness.

In the 1970's, the policy of family planning was put into practice in China in a comprehensive way. Today, children born in that period have grown up and reached the age for serving in the Army one after another. According to a survey, the rate of applications for enlistment by young people from one-child families was approximately 30 percent in rural areas and 50 percent in cities in 1995, and the rates in the three municipalities were even higher: Some 70 percent in Beijing, 60 percent in Tianjin, and 65 percent in Shanghai. In Sheyang County, Jiangsu Province, several hundred soldiers were recruited from a large number of applicants, among whom more than 6,000 were from the one-child families.

A few years ago, someone sighed with feeling and said: "Who will defend China in the year 2000?" Indeed, people cannot help but feel deeply worried and a little uneasy. In particular, they wonder if the generation of "little emperors" who have grown up in a carefree environment will be the backbone of defense for the motherland.

Now, it is still too early to make any appraisal or prediction about this generation. Let us just see what they are thinking about at this moment.

Young person A: The living conditions of my family are very good. My father is a millionaire well-known in the township, and my job is related to transportation with several vehicles at my disposal, from which I also earned a lot of money. Since I was a child, I have shown a weakness for war movies as well as military newspapers and periodicals. To the career of a serviceman, I have a sense of worship in my heart. Despite the opposition of my family, I still think that it is a great pleasure in my life if I am able to live and make choices in accordance with my own wishes. What is more, to perform military service is to meet the requirement of the country and the stipulation of the law.

Young man B: My father is an ex-serviceman, who participated in the War Against Vietnam for Self-Defense. My father often says that the barracks are a university where people can learn knowledge that they are unable to acquire elsewhere and particularly where they can steel their will. In my opinion, a man is good for nothing if he has to live like a chicken taken under the wing of the family. Although a soldier must bear hardships, still I wish I were a soldier in the history of my life.

Young man C: My present life is really meaningless: endlessly moving around the circle of my work unit — cinema — home, and the hustle and bustle of the city makes me depressed and uneasy. I wish I could perform heroic deeds in the Army and I would not shirk my duty of fighting on the front. I feel that life can only be rich and meaningful in this way.

True, pampered since childhood, these young people from one-child families have weak viability and low ability in psychological tolerance. Nonetheless, after reading these exciting and rational remarks, we have to look at them with new eyes. Indeed, the "little emperors" have grown up.

Early November 1995, a meeting to celebrate the completion of an optic-fiber project jointly built by soldiers and civilians was held in Beijing. At the meeting it was learned that 140,000 officers and men participated in the two year long project to support local construction, the largest of its kind since the founding

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of the PRC, and that 15 percent of the officers and men were from one-child families. Their work performance was extraordinarily outstanding in spite of the strenuous labor and intense hardships.

From here we can see that officers and men from one-child families are a newly emerging force of national defense building.

- For the Pure White Hada in the Heart

Was I attracted by the mysterious and unfathomable landscape of the land covered with snow? Was I attracted by the industrious and courageous compatriots of the Zang nationality? Was I attracted by the majestic and towering Himalayas? Was I attracted by the Potala Palace permeated with the fumes of incense? I should say that everything in Tibet attracted me. For the pure white Hada in my heart, I will go to Tibet as a soldier with a gun on my shoulder. These are some verses written by Wu Ming when he responded to the call for conscription.

Going to Tibet, where conditions are most formidable, and where the motherland needs us most, has become a major characteristic of conscription over the past few years. Militant and lofty words like this, which was very resounding for a time, were often heard in the physical check-up centers of various localities including Jiangsu, Anhui, Shaanxi, and Shanxi. In the present age when people stress money and real benefits, these words sound particularly moving and touch people's hearts.

In Lianyungang, there is a young man called Sun Hui among the several hundred youngsters who requested to go to Tibet for military service. His father joined the Army and followed the troops to Tibet in 1968, where he worked for over 10 years. Little Sun was born and passed his childhood in Tibet. The years he spent there are enviable. When he recalled the life of his childhood, he was very excited. He told other young people who were also taking the physical check-up: "Tibet is a good place. To take over and carry forward my father's gun is what I have been pursuing all my life."

In the drafting office of Yanta District, Xian City, five university students from the Xian Teachers College resolutely signed up to be enlisted for military service in Tibet. They are 1994-grade student Yang Chao from the Biology Department, and 1993-grade students Yang Ping from the Fine Arts Department, Guo Ruijian, Zhang Yijie, and Jin Yongfeng from the Chinese Language Department. The youngest of them is 19 and the oldest is 22. Let us see what they are thinking about:

"The green barracks are the holy altars of selfless dedication and the battlefields to temper our will."

"We yearn for the barracks full of vitality to experience the 'dynamic life.'"

"A person will have everlasting regrets if he has never been a soldier in his life!"

"It is of vital significance to fulfill our duties in the most difficult places for the motherland!"

Yang Chao was the most fortunate of all, as he passed the physical check-up and political screening and marched toward the snowy plateau in Tibet with other new recruits numbering 800 from Xian.

In the Yuncheng area of Shanxi Province, which is habitually called a "golden triangle," there has emerged a gratifying phenomenon of "three many's" in recent years: 1) Many cadres took the lead to send their children to join the Army in Tibet. There were more than 10 cases in the Shanxi Aluminum Factory, a state key enterprise, alone. 2) Many well-to-do families supported their children to serve in the Army in Tibet. 3) Many youngsters from one-child families enthusiastically wished to be recruited in Tibet. According to statistics, one half of the new recruits now performing military service in Tibet are youngsters from one-child families.

While young people from various localities long to fully display their talents in the snowy plateau, here on this plateau tens of thousands of Tibetan youth from factories, mines, enterprises, institutions, and vast agricultural and pastoral areas also swarmed into various drafting centers to enter their names for enlistment. As disclosed by the comrades in charge of a drafting office, the ratio between the applicants and the number of recruitment was 16:1 in 1995, which was without parallel in history.

[15 Feb 96 pp 25-26] The "Cool Tone" That Cannot Be Ignored

In the 1990's, major changes have taken place in various fields in China except the "craze for joining the Army" which remains unchanged.

This is a matter for rejoicing. However, there is no need for reticence; in individual units and areas, sighs about the "difficulty in conscription" were often heard, which was extremely disharmonious with the mighty wave of joining the Army at present.

The following are some conditions revealed in an investigation report of the district People's Armed Forces Department in a certain large city:

The current permanent residents in this district number 560,000, and each year, about 4,000 people meet the requirements for conscription, as found out to be the case. In fact, it will not be a problem if some hundreds

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of people go to serve in the Army each year. However, great efforts had to be made to fulfill the conscription task in recent years. First, the rate of self-elimination is high, while the rate of voluntary enlistment is low. Over a period of three years, some 800 young people were assigned to take physical check-ups, but 329 were eliminated because of "unqualified" eyesight, which accounted for 40 percent of the total applicants. Another 40 percent of them either had "records of disease" or refused to undergo the physical check-ups. Second, it is difficult to make final decisions on the short lists. Over 80 percent of the applicants asked to stay in large cities or serve as technical soldiers. Therefore, at the time when final decisions were made, the district People's Armed Forces Department was as crowded as a marketplace, with people soliciting favor coming and going in an endless stream. The People's Armed Forces Department had to put in a lot of time and energy to fulfill the conscription task of recruiting just a hundred soldiers. Looking at the situation in recent years, the following tendencies of "six many's and six few's" have emerged in conscription work: Many people were compelled by their work units to enter their names for enlistment, and few people signed up of their own accord; many people pleaded to be exempt from military service through others, and few took the initiative in sending their children to take physical check-ups for joining the Army; many people taking induction physicals only wished to be eliminated, and few people positively coordinated with the doctors in the physicals; many people wanted to be a soldier for the purpose of getting gilded to find a good outlet, and few people have a pure motive of enlisting in the armed forces; many people wished to go to places where conditions were favorable, and few were willing to go to the places where lives were hard; and on the issue of providing more and good-quality candidates for recruitment, many leading cadres gave consideration to the interests of their own units and few took state interests into consideration.

If we say the sighs about "difficulty in conscription" were heard in only a few large cities a couple of years ago, then such sighs can be heard in quite a lot of large cities in recent years.

On the eve of winter conscription in 1992, comrades from a certain military region, relevant provincial military district, military sub-district, and the People's Armed Forces Department conducted a survey, by adopting forms such as interviews and others, in 10 large and medium cities in five provinces and autonomous regions, which lasted for a month. The findings of the survey showed that along with the reform of labor power employment system in enterprises, the "craze in joining the Army" for the purpose of finding a job began to cool down among urban youth, which reflected in varying degrees their unwillingness to serve in the Army. Its principal reasons included: 1) The concept of selecting an occupation has changed. Quite a few young people of the right age and their parents think that the reform of labor force employment system has broken the "iron-clad bowls," there are many ways of "earning money," and people no longer have to totally rely on a certain organization to get a job. Moreover, even though a demobilized soldier is assigned a job in a factory, he may also be dismissed in the process of "merger." Hence, it is unnecessary for people to squeeze onto the road of joining the Army. 2) People are worried about the possible changes of policy concerning the placement of demobilized soldiers. 3) People's concept of regarding military service as a bounden duty has become more vague now.

The emergence of the problem of "difficulty in conscription" has directly affected the quality of recruits and the development of army building, which has aroused the serious attention of various social sectors Some people think that to resolve this problem, apart from furthering education on national defense among the people of the entire country, we should also give consideration to the following issues: 1) Improving the system of military service and shortening the time for service in the Army. At present, the shortest period for compulsory military service is three years, and some remain in the service for four to five years. It is precisely during this period that they need to learn knowledge and skill to lay a foundation for their future. Today, people "regard time as money." They hope to devote their efforts to the building of national defense, and at the same time, they are worried about their future lives being affected by serving in the Army. Therefore, except for the special arms, the term for military service should be appropriately shortened. 2) Enhancing the treatment of servicemen. With reform and opening up further deepening, the actual income of personnel working in localities is much higher than that of the active servicemen. Hence, their treatment in lives should be appropriately enhanced to narrow the gap between servicemen and the local personnel and augment the appeal and cohesion of the Army. 3) Improving the preferential treatment given to families of soldiers and martyrs and properly carrying out the policy of helping settle down the demobilized soldiers and those transferred to civilian work.

Anyhow, "there will be milk as well as bread." The "difficulty in conscription" is only a minor aspect. So long as we adopt positive countermeasures, such problems will be resolved.

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The Quality of Soldier, an Everlasting Topic

Since the compulsory military service system was put into practice 40 years ago, several major changes have been made to the requirements for health, cultural standard, and political level of the new recruits, so that their quality is on the rise every year. In particular, the quality of soldiers has been developing in the direction of suiting future operations under high-tech conditions since the beginning of the 1990's. Let us have a look at how matters stood in recent years.

Data on the two conscriptions at the beginning and end of 1990 showed that Communist Party members and the Communist Youth League members accounted for 40.3 percent of the total recruits, and those having received education of senior and junior middle schools accounted for 35.2 percent and 64.13 percent respectively. It is universally reported that the quality of new recruits has been noticeably enhanced.

Among the new recruits from the 1991 winter conscription nationwide, 40 percent were party members or league members, 40.8 percent had the educational level of senior middle school, and 58.7 percent had the educational level of junior middle school. They were regarded as "having a correct attitude toward enlistment, stable mind and emotion, relatively robust health, and higher educational level" in Army units.

Among the soldiers called up for winter conscription in 1993, the number of party and league members reached 40.5 percent, those with senior and junior middle school educational level accounted for 38.2 percent and 60.8 percent respectively, and youth of nonagricultural residential registration accounted for 26 percent. These new recruits had wider range of knowledge, stronger ability in receiving training, and greater scope of special skills as compared with those of previous years.

In the 1994 winter conscription, the proportion of recruitment from senior middle school students was raised in various localities so that the cultural standards of the new recruits were considerably enhanced.

In 1995, in light of General Secretary Jiang's instructions on taking firm control of the quality of new recruits, the drafting departments in various localities adopted all sorts of measures to select and receive new soldiers so that their quality was substantially better than in previous years.

Nevertheless, we cannot deny this fact: Every year some young people, who do not come up to the standards, sneak into the troops through various channels. Once they are found out, they are returned to the localities from which they came. Certainly, there are also some very thorny matters. For instance, a recruit of a certain Army unit is just 18, but he has a three year old son. Two months after he was recruited, he told the leadership in tears that his wife wanted to break off relations with him. He asked permission that the child be sent and raised in the troop. Another recruit wrote a letter to a pertinent cadre, saying that "he just came to be a soldier and would not fight on the battlefield" for fear that "the death would discontinue his family line," being the only child in his family. Some soldiers had certificates of graduation from senior middle schools, but examination results showed that they had not even the standards of junior middle school graduates. Others had such and such diseases that are not fit for performing military service.

The reasons leading to the poor quality of soldiers in some localities include: 1) Comrades in charge of the government and drafting department there have vague awareness in national defense and muddled ideas about the quality of soldiers during peacetime. 2) There are no strict regulations on reward and punishment with regard to recruitment work. Those responsible for the units sending unqualified soldiers did not receive proper punishment. 3) Malpractices such as giving dinners and presenting gifts have infiltrated into the area of conscription work.

Army units have the responsibility of transforming the local young people into qualified soldiers through help and education, although their political, physical, and cultural qualities have been formed before joining the Army. After they went to the barracks and received a short period of training, they were sent to the fighting posts to learn the techniques of operating guns and artillery, and to be prepared at all times to engage in a life-and-death struggle with invaders on the bloody and fiery battlefield to fulfill the heavy responsibility of safeguarding the interests of the motherland, the lives of the masses, and the safety of their properties. Therefore, having a single unqualified youngster planted in an armed group is an expression of irresponsibility to the country and the people.

The phenomenon of "black soldiers" resolutely prohibited in the repeated injunctions issued by the Drafting Office of the Ministry of National Defense also brought interference and damage to guaranteeing the quality of soldiers. The problem is a note out of tune with the symphony of the PRC's conscription. Though surprise or alarm is unnecessary, still we have to pay adequate attention to it. Today, our society has entered a brand new development period, the PRC's system of military service will certainly be further developed, refined, and amplified along with the establishment of the market economy.

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Taking an overall view of the current conditions concerning military service in various countries the world over, changes are also taking place quietly.

Since December 1993, Russia began recruiting the first batch of contract soldiers. This is the first time that a contract system was practiced in the armed forces in Russia. According to a report from TASS, by the year 2000, the compulsory servicemen and contracted soldiers enlisted by Russia will be half each. In this country where compulsory military service is regarded as a heroic deed of patriotism, an argument on the revision of military service system is under way at present.

The People's Republic of Mongolia practiced a new system of military service in 1992. The "Law on Military Obligations of Mongolian Citizens and Legal Status of Military Personnel" came into effect on 1 June that year. According to the stipulations of the said law, the country's system of military service consists of active and reserve services. The age for performing military service is 18 to 25, with 27 as the maximum.

Some military experts maintain that a smaller number of professional standing troops who perform military service totally voluntarily can better cope with emergency situations than the standing armies chiefly recruited by conscription. For example, during the Gulf War, France decided not to send troops to the Middle East because of political considerations. Afterward, under the pressure of international public opinion, it rapidly dispatched a contingent of well-trained, entirely voluntary standing troops that played an important role in the operations of the multinational coalition forces. In 1993, the French Government decided to shorten the term for compulsory military service from 12 months to 10 months. This is the first step upon which France founded its professional armed forces.

East European countries are also shortening their terms for soldiers' service in the armies. Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia ((as published)), Hungary, and Poland all shortened their terms from the original two to three years to 12 to 18 months.

In East Asia, Japan has a contingent of entirely voluntary self-defense corps with female as well as male members.

In African countries where there are no civil wars or other conflicts, the practice of enlisting volunteers to military service has become a universal trend....

China has its own national conditions. We can neither copy the practices of foreign countries indiscriminately, nor stand still. Following the adoption of the new "Law on the Military Service of the People's Republic of China" at the Second Session of the Sixth National People's Congress in June 1984, its coordinated "Regulations on Conscription Work" has been put into effect. On this basis, a dozen provinces and autonomous regions including Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, Shanxi, Shandong, and Hubei have formulated and promulgated their local regulations on military service in light of the local conditions.

The time is advancing. The reform and readjustment of conscription work will certainly arouse the serious attention of the CPC Central Committee, the State Council, and the Central Military Commission. Likewise, it is certainly under the consideration of the drafting department at all levels. Seeking an ideal system of military service has become a new goal that the PRC is working hard to accomplish.

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General

PRC: Report on White Paper on Environment

OW0406075196 Beijing XINHUA in English 0703 GMT 4 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 4 (XINHUA) — China said in a white paper today that its environment has basically steered clear of deterioration with the fact that its gross national product (GNP) has been growing by around 10 percent annually over the past 18 years of reforms and opening up.

The white paper on Environmental Protection in China, issued here today by the Information Office of the State Council, said that the principle China has adopted to achieve coordinated economic, social and environmental development has been proved to be effective.

The Chinese government has paid great attention to environmental issues arising from the country's population growth and economic development, and has made environmental protection an important aspect of the improvement of the people's living standards and quality of life, the some 20,000-word white paper said.

In order to promote coordinated development between the economy, the society and the environment, China enacted and implemented a series of principles, policies, laws and measures for environmental protection in the 1980s, it said.

"The Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China" is the cardinal law for environmental protection in China, the white paper said. The law has established the basic principle for coordinated development between economic construction, social progress and environmental protection, and defined the rights and duties of governments at all levels, all units and individuals as regards environmental protection.

China has enacted and promulgated many special laws on environmental protection as well as laws on natural resources related to environmental protection, it said.

The Chinese government has also enacted more than 30 administrative decrees regarding environmental protection. In addition, departments concerned have also issued a number of administrative rules and decrees on environmental protection.

To implement the state environmental protection laws and regulations, local people's congresses and people's governments, proceeding from specific conditions in their own respective areas, have enacted and promulgated more than 600 local laws on environmental protection, the white paper said.

By the end of 1995, China had promulgated state environmental standards on 364 items. As stipulated in Chinese law, the environmental quality standards and pollutant discharge standards are compulsory standards, and those who violate these compulsory environmental standards must bear the corresponding legal responsibility, the white paper said.

The white paper said that the Chinese government regards prevention and control of industrial pollution as the focal point of environmental protection. Thanks to the unremitting efforts over the past 20-odd years, China has made great progress in this regard.

In 1995 the waste water treatment rate of the industrial enterprises at and above the county level in china reached 76.8 percent; the smoke and dust removal rate of waste gas from burning fuel, 88.2 percent; waste gas purification rate from production processes, 68.9 percent; and the comprehensive utilization rate of industrial solid waste, 43 percent, the white paper said.

Output value attained through the comprehensive utilization of the industrial "three wastes" came to 19 billion yuan, it added.

China is a country with coal as its main energy source. Seventy percent of the smoke and dust in the air and 90 percent of the sulfur dioxide emission come from burning coal, the white paper said.

As a result, the white paper continued, the cities with concentrated industries and their population suffer from serious air pollution. Acid rain has occurred, and the situation has gone from bad to worse in some regions and cities.

The Chinese government has adopted measures such as developing clean coal technology and clean burning technology, and collecting sulfur dioxide emission fees, to control acid rain, the white paper said.

A long-term study by Chinese experts on the issue of acid rain proves that the precursors of acid rain generated from the emission source in China's inland areas are mainly spread within Chinese territory, mainly in the areas south of the Chang Jiang River and in regions east of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, and in the Sichuan Basin, the white paper said.

At present, 68.4 percent of urban residents in China use gas for fuel and heating; the centralized disposal rate of urban sewage is 20 percent; the innocuity rate of urban garbage and fecal disposal is 45.4 percent; and the afforestation rate is 23.8 percent, the white paper said.

National land improvement is part of China's work in implementing the sustainable development strategy. Since the start of the reform and opening up to the

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outside world, the Chinese government has carried out national land improvement on a large scale, the white paper said.

Notable successes have been attained in harnessing major rivers and lakes. Since the foundation of New China in 1949, the Chinese government has taken comprehensive measures to develop and harness the major rivers and lakes, with emphasis on the prevention and control of flood and water-logging, as an important task of the construction of water conservation facilities.

During the Eighth Five-Year Plan period (1991-1995), the main dikes were heightened and reinforced, waterways were cleaned up, and flood diversion projects were built on the middle and lower reaches of the Chang Jiang River, the lower reaches of the Yellow River, and other major rivers and lakes, the white paper said.

The construction of a group of key projects for water control and other uses were completed or started. To compensate for lack of water resources in northern areas, the Chinese government vigorously promoted the planning and construction of water-diversion projects between different drainage basins, it added.

In November 1995, it sponsored an overall feasibility study of the middle, eastern and western lines projects for diverting water from south to north.

The Three Gorges Project is a gigantic, trans-century project for harnessing and developing the Chang Jiang River. When it is completed, floods on the upper reaches will be effectively controlled and areas on the middle and lower reaches of the river will be able to improve their anti-flood capability, thus lessening the harmful effects on the ecological environment. Hydroelectricity, which will be the energy discharged by the project, causes much less pollution than coal-burning power plants, the white paper said, adding that the Chinese government will adopt a sequence of measures to minimize the unfavorable effects on the ecology and the environment that could be caused by the Three Gorges Project.

China has traditionally been an agricultural country. In developing agricultural production, the Chinese government attaches great importance to rural environmental protection, and has taken the development of eco-agriculture as an important means to realize the coordinated development of the environment and the economy, the white paper said.

At present, the 50 counties designated by the state for eco-agricultural experiment are playing a good and exemplary role in the country, spurring development of eco- agriculture in 10 prefectures and over 100 counties, the white paper said.

According to statistics, the total grain output in the experimental counties has increased by 15 percent, output per mu by more than 10 percent, and the income per capita is 12 percent higher than the average level of the surrounding areas, the white paper said.

In the meantime, work has started in an all-round way to construct some 100 ecological demonstration areas, mainly at the county level, in order to promote regional sustainable development, it added.

The Chinese government regards ecological environmental protection as the focal point of its environmental protection work. Through protracted efforts, China has made great achievements in the protection and construction of the ecological environment, the white paper said.

Since the 1950s, the Chinese government has organized large-scale tree planting activities and stepped up efforts for the fostering, protection and management of forest resources and consequently has made great progress in rational utilization of forest resources.

Currently, China's forest area totals 134 million hectares, which brings the country's forest coverage to 13.92 percent. Artificial afforestation covers 33.79 million hectares. Volunteers have contributed a total of 4.4 billion person-times to planting 23 billion trees. Once-barren mountains suitable for tree planting in 12 provinces and autonomous regions are now clothed with greenery.

There are 612 national-level rare and endangered species of flora and fauna listed as key protection species, including 258 species of wild animals and 354 species of plants.

Artificial reproduction has been successfully implemented for more than 60 species of rare and endangered wild animals, and through propagation, such species as David's deer, wild horse and saiga tatarica have been re-introduced.

Establishing nature reserves is the most effective method for the in situ conservation of wild plants and animals. By the end of 1995, 799 nature reserves of rather diversified types, covering a total area of 71.85 million hectares, or 7.19 percent of China's territory, had been established in China.

There are 99 national-level reserves, of which ten — Jilin's Changbai Mountains, Sichuan's Wolong, Guizhou's Fanjing Mountains, Hubei's Shennongjia, Fujian's Wuyi Mountains, Xinjiang's Mt. Bogda, Guangdong's Dinghu Mountains, Inner Mongolia's Xilingol, Jiangsu's Yancheng and Yunnan's Xishuangbanna — have been listed in the International Network of Men and Biosphere Reserves.

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Another six nature reserves — Zhalong in Heilongjiang, Xianghai in Jilin, Boyang Lake in Jiangxi, East Dongting Lake in Hunan, Bird Island in Qinghai and Dongzhai Harbor in Hainan — have been included in the list of the world's important wetlands.

At present, a total of 512 historic and scenic sites has been designated, of which 119 are at the national level, 256 at the provincial level and 137 at the city or county level, covering a total area of 9.6 million hectares. Forest parks total 710, of which 248 are at the national level, the white paper said.

Scenic spots at Huangshan Mountain, Wulingyuan, Jiuzhaigou and Huanglong are listed as parts of the world natural and cultural heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, it added.

By the end of 1995 China had set up 175 zoological gardens and zoological exhibition sites in public parks, 227 artificial breeding centers for wild animals, more than 60 large botanical gardens and 255 wild plant gene and cell banks to ensure the continuation of rare and endangered species of plants and animals, including the giant panda, Chinese alligator, Chinese sturgeon, white-flag dolphin, Manchurian tiger, crested ibis, Cathay silver fir, dovetree, Cycas revoluta and camellia chrysantha tuyama, it said.

The medicinal use of and trade in rhinoceros horn and tiger bone are strictly prohibited by the government, and the illegal hunting of rare wild animals is severely punished by law, the white paper said.

The white paper said that since the 1980s large-scale publicity activities have been organized all over the country every year on World Environment Day, Tree Planting Day, Love the Birds Week, etc.

Since 1993, the media's "China Trans-century Environmental Protection Inspection Campaign," centered on news about environmental law enforcement, has aroused a nationwide response and accelerated the solution to a number of major environmental problems, the white paper said.

China holds that economic development should be coordinated with environmental protection; protection of the environment is a common task for mankind, but the economically developed countries should take more responsibility in this respect; the strengthening of international cooperation should be based on respecting national sovereignty; the protection of the environment and the spurring of development can not be done without peace and stability in the world; and both practical interests of various countries and long- term interests of the world should be considered in handling environmental problems, the white paper said.

Since 1979, the white paper said, China has signed a series of international environmental conventions and agreements, including the "Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora," "International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling," "Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer," "Basel Convention on Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal," "Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer (revised version)," "Framework Convention on Climate Change," "Convention on Biological Diversity," "Convention on Combating Desertification," "Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat," and "1972 London Convention."

China always conscientiously carries out its responsibilities for international environmental conventions and agreements which it has signed, approved or joined, the white paper added.

The Chinese government clearly knows that waste of resources and environmental pollution in the country are quite serious because China is in the development stage of rapidly promoting industrialization and still practices the extensive production and management methods, the white paper said.

Along with population increase and economic development, this problem will become more prominent, the white paper said. It is still a long-term and arduous task to solve the environmental problems left over by history and control the environmental problems that appear in the process of development.

During the Ninth Five-Year Plan period (1996-2000), the Chinese government will put into effect a series of important environmental protection measures, including the "China Trans-century Green Project," and realize the objectives of the struggle for environmental protection as put forward in the "Ninth Five-Year Plan of the People's Republic of China for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Term Objectives to the Year 2010," the white paper said.

China will do its utmost to bring the aggravating tendency in environmental pollution and ecological destruction basically under control and improve the environmental quality of cities and regions, the white paper said.

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PRC: 'Text' of White Paper on Environment

OW0406141796 Beijing XINHUA in English 1236 GMT 4 Jun 96

["Full text" of white paper issued by the Information Office of the State Council in Beijing on 4 June: "Environmental Protection in China"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 4 (XINHUA)

Foreword

China is a developing country and now it is confronted with the dual task of developing the economy and protecting the environment. Proceeding from its national conditions, China has, in the process of promoting its overall modernization program, made environmental protection one of its basic national policies, regarded the realization of sustainable development as an important strategy and carried out throughout the country large-scale pollution prevention and control as well as ecological environment protection. Over the 18 years since the start of reform and opening up to the outside world, China's gross national product (GNP) has achieved a sustained annual growth of around 10 percent, while its environmental quality has basically steered clear of the outcome of corresponding deterioration. Practice has proved that the principle China has adopted to achieve coordinated development between the economy, the society and the environment has been effective.

As a member of the international community, China, while making great efforts to protect its own environment, has taken an active part in international environmental affairs, striven to promote international cooperation in the field of environmental protection, and earnestly fulfilled its international obligations. All these have fully shown the sincerity and determination of the Chinese government and people to protect the global environment.

What efforts has China made to protect its own environment? What is the situation of environmental protection in China? On the occasion of the annual World Environment Day, which falls on June 5, here is an account.

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I. The Choice of Implementing a Sustainable Development Strategy

China's modernization drive has been launched in the following conditions: The country has a large population base, its per capita average of natural resources is low, and its economic development as well as scientific and technological level remain comparatively backward. Along with the growth of China's population, the development of the economy and the continuous improvement of the people's consumption level since the 1970s, the pressure on resources, which have been in short supply, and on the fragile environment has become greater and greater. Which road of development to choose has turned out, historically, to be an issue of paramount importance to the survival of the Chinese people and their descendants.

The Chinese government has paid great attention to the environmental issues arising from the country's population growth and economic development, and has made protecting the environment an important aspect of the improvement of the people's living standards and quality of life. In order to promote coordinated development between the economy, the society and the environment, China enacted and implemented a series of principles, policies, laws and measures for environmental protection in the 1980s.

— Making environmental protection one of China's basic national policies. The prevention and control of environmental pollution and ecological destruction and the rational exploitation and utilization of natural resources have a vital bearing on the country's overall interests and long-term development. The Chinese government is unswervingly carrying out the basic national policy of environmental protection.

— Formulating the guiding principles of simultaneous planning, simultaneous implementation and simultaneous development for economic construction, urban and rural construction and environmental construction, and

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combining the economic returns with social effects and environmental benefits; and carrying out the three major policies of "prevention first and combining prevention with control," "making the polluter responsible for treating the pollution" and "intensifying environmental management."

— Promulgating and putting into effect laws and regulations regarding environmental protection and placing environmental protection on a legal footing, continuously improving the statutes concerning the environment, formulating strict law-enforcement procedures and increasing the intensity of law enforcement so as to ensure the effective implementation of the environmental laws and regulations.

— Persisting in incorporating environmental protection into the plans for national economic and social development, introducing to it macro regulation and management under state guidance, and gradually increasing environmental protection input so as to give simultaneous consideration to environmental protection and other undertakings and ensure their coordinated development.

— Establishing and improving environmental protection organizations under governments at all levels, forming a rather complete environmental administrative system, and bringing into full play the governments' role in environmental supervision and administration.

— Accelerating progress in environmental science and technology. Strengthening research in basic theories, organizing efforts to tackle key scientific and technological problems, developing and popularizing practical technology for environmental pollution prevention and control, fostering the growth of environmental protection industries, and having set up an initial scientific research system for environmental protection.

— Carrying out environmental publicity and education to enhance the whole nation's awareness of the environment. Widely conducting environmental publicity work, gradually popularizing environmental education in primary and middle schools, developing on-the-job education in environmental protection and vocational education, and training specialized personnel in environmental science and technology as well as environmental administration.

— Promoting international cooperation in the field of environmental protection. Actively expanding exchanges and cooperation concerning the environment and development with other countries and international organizations, earnestly implementing international environmental conventions, and seeking scope for China's role in global environmental affairs.

Since the beginning of the 1990s the international community and various countries have made an important step forward in exploring solutions to problems of the environment and development. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in June 1992, made sustainable development the strategy for common development in the future, and this won wide acclaim from the governments of all countries represented at the conference.

In August 1992, shortly after that conference, the Chinese government put forward ten major measures China was to adopt to enhance its environment and development, clearly pointing out that the road of sustainable development was a logical choice for China now and in the future.

In March 1994 the Chinese government approved and promulgated "China's Agenda 21 — the White Paper on China's Population, Environment, and Development in the 21st Century." This document, proceeding from the country's specific national conditions in these three respects, put forward China's overall strategy, measures and program of action for sustainable development. Relevant departments and localities also worked out their respective plans of action to implement the strategy for sustainable development.

At its Fourth Session in March 1996, China's Eighth National People's Congress examined and adopted "the Ninth Five-Year Plan of the People's Republic of China for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Term Objectives to the Year 2010." Both the Plan and Objectives take sustainable development as an important strategy for the modernization drive, thus making it possible for the implementation of the strategy of sustainable development in the course of China's economic construction and social development.

II. Improving the Legal and Administrative Systems Step by Step

China pays great attention to environmental legislative work and has now established an environmental statutory framework that takes the "Constitution of the People's Republic of China" as the foundation and the "Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China" as the principal part.

"The Constitution of the People's Republic of China" stipulates: "The state protects and improves the living environment and the ecological environment, and prevents and remedies pollution and other public hazards," and "The state ensures the rational use of natural resources and protects rare animals and plants. The appropriation or damage of natural resources by any organization or individual by whatever means is prohibited."

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"The Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China" is the cardinal law for environmental protection in China. The law has established the basic principle for coordinated development between economic construction, social progress and environmental protection, and defined the rights and duties of governments at all levels, all units and individuals as regards environmental protection.

China has enacted and promulgated many special laws on environmental protection as well as laws on natural resources related to environmental protection. They include: the Law on the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, the Law on the Prevention and Control of Air Pollution, the Law on the Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution by Solid Wastes, the Marine Environment Protection Law, the Forestry Law, the Grassland Law, the Fisheries Law, the Mineral Resources Law, the Land Administration Law, the Water Resources Law, the Law on the Protection of Wild Animals, the Law on Water and Soil Conservation, and the Agriculture Law.

The Chinese government has also enacted more than 30 administrative decrees regarding environmental protection, including the Regulations for the Prevention and Control of Noise Pollution, Regulations on Nature Reserves, Regulations on the Prevention of and Protection Against Radiation from Radio Isotopes and Radioactive Device, Regulations on the Safe Administration of Chemicals and Other Dangerous Materials, Provisional Regulations on the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution in the Huaihe River Drainage Area, Regulations Governing Environmental Protection Administration in Offshore Oil Exploration and Development, Regulations on the Control of Marine Wastes Dumping, Regulations for the Implementation of the Protection of Terrestrial Wildlife, Provisional Regulations on the Administration of National Parks, Regulations on the Protection of Basic Farmland, and Regulations on Urban Afforestation. In addition, departments concerned have also issued a number of administrative rules and decrees on environmental protection. proceeding from their respective specific conditions, have enacted and promulgated more than 600 local laws on environmental protection.

Environmental standards are an important component of China's environmental legal system. They include environmental quality standards, pollutant discharge or emission standards, basic environmental criteria, criteria for samples, and criteria for methodology. The environmental quality standards and pollutant discharge or emission standards are divided into state standards and local standards. By the end of 1995, China had promulgated state environmental standards on 364 items. As stipulated in Chinese laws, the environmental quality standards and pollutant discharge or emission standards are compulsory standards, and those who violate these compulsory environmental standards must bear the corresponding legal responsibility.

In the process of setting up and improving the environmental legal system, China attaches equal importance to environmental law enforcement and environmental legislation. For four consecutive years, China has conducted nationwide checks on the enforcement of environmental laws to seriously deal with acts of polluting and damaging the environment and severely punish environmental law violations. China pays great attention to supervision exercised by the people and media over law violations regarding the environment, and it has opened channels for the people to report on environmental problems and has adopted measures for the news media to expose environmental law-breaking activities.

It should be pointed out that the building of China's environmental legal system needs to be further improved. For instance, some areas still remain uncovered by law, the contents of some laws are yet to be increased or revised and there are still the cases of not fully observing or enforcing laws. Therefore, it remains an important strategic task to continue efforts to intensify the building of the environmental legal system.

China attaches equal importance to the establishment of an environmental administrative system and it has established a system in which the National People's Congress enacts the laws and supervises their enforcement, governments at different levels take the responsibility for the enforcement of laws, the administrative departments in charge of environmental protection exercise overall supervision and administration, and the various departments concerned exercise supervision and administration according to the laws.

The National People's Congress has established an Environment and Resources Protection Committee, whose work is to organize the formulation and examination of draft laws on environmental and resources protection and prepare the necessary reports, exercise the supervision over the enforcement of laws governing environmental and resources protection, put forward motions related to the issue of environmental and resources protection, and conduct exchanges with parliaments in other countries in the field of environmental and resources protection. The people's congresses of some provinces and cities have also established corresponding environmental and resources protection institutions.

The Environmental Protection Committee under the State Council is made up of leaders of various related ministries under the State Council. It is the State Council's discussion and coordination agency for environ-

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mental protection work. Its major tasks are: studying and examining the principles, policies and measures related to coordinated development of the country's economy and environmental protection, giving guidance to and coordinating efforts in tackling major environmental problems, exercising supervision over and conducting checks on the implementation of the environmental protection laws and regulations by various localities and departments, and promoting the development of environmental protection undertakings throughout the country. The people's governments at the provincial, city and county levels have also established corresponding environmental protection committees.

The National Environmental Protection Agency is the competent environmental protection administration agency under the State Council, whose task is to exercise overall supervision and administration over the country's environmental protection work. The people's governments at the provincial, city and county levels have also successively established environmental protection administration departments to carry out overall supervision and administration of the environmental protection work in their respective localities. At present, China has more than 2,500 environmental protection administration departments at and above the county level, employing a total of 88,000 people for environmental administration, monitoring, inspection and control, statistics work, scientific research, publicity and education.

Environmental protection institutions have also been established in comprehensive departments, resources administration departments and industrial departments under governments at various levels to take charge of related environmental and resources protection work. Most of China's large and medium-sized enterprises have also set up environmental protection agencies responsible for their own pollution prevention and control and the promotion of cleaner production. At present, various departments and enterprises employ more than 200,000 people for all kinds of environmental protection work.

III. The Prevention and Control of Industrial Pollution and the Comprehensive Improvement of the Urban Environment

The Chinese government regards prevention and control of industrial pollution as the focal point of environmental protection. Thanks to unremitting efforts over the past 20-odd years, China has made great progress in this regard.

— Changes in the strategy for the prevention and control of industrial pollution have been effected. In the 1970s, China's efforts to prevent and control industrial pollution was mainly concentrated on the control of individual polluting sources. In the 1980s, China carried out preveation and control of industrial pollution in a comprehensive way through the readjustment of irrational industrial distribution, the overall industrial structure and the product mix in combination with technical transformation, intensified the policies and measures in environmental management and other aspects. In the course of establishing the socialist market economic system in the 1990s, China has changed its traditional development strategy, promoted clean production and embarked on a sustainable development road. In guiding concept for the prevention and control of industrial pollution, "three changes" have been decided upon, i.e., regarding the basic strategy in prevention and control of pollution, China will gradually change its way of end-of-pipe pollution control into pollution control during the whole process of industrial production; with respect to the control of pollutant discharge, concentration control will be replaced by a combination of the control of concentration and that of total quantity; and with regard to pollution control methods, focus on the control of scattered individual polluting sources will be replaced by a combination of centralized and scattered controls.

— Policy and legislation for preventing and controlling industrial pollution have taken initial shape as a coherent system. In order to effectively prevent and control industrial pollution, the Chinese government has drawn up three major policies for environmental protection, i.e., "putting prevention first and combining prevention with control," "making the polluter responsible for treating the pollution" and "intensifying environmental management." In addition, it has drawn up the policy on the comprehensive utilization of resources, the policy on preventing and controlling industrial pollution in combination with technical transformation, the policy on overall improvement of the urban environment, the policy on environmental protection technology, and the policy on environmental protection industries. The laws and regulations on environmental protection that have been promulgated include explicit provisions on the prevention and control of industrial pollution. Local governments at all levels have worked out their policies on the prevention and control of industrial pollution in accordance with their respective actual conditions.

— Enterprise environment supervision and management have been reinforced. The Chinese government has promoted the enforcement of the environmental impact assessment system and the "three-at-the- same-time" system (i.e., facilities for preventing and controlling environmental pollution and destruction shall be planned, constructed and put into use at the same time as the main production projects). These steps have played re-

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markable roles in controlling new pollution sources. The nation's environmental impact assessment rate of construction projects above the county level and the implementation rate of the "three-at-the-same-time" system have reached 60.8 percent and 87.3 percent respectively. By the end of 1995, 480 cities and 77,000 enterprises had made pollution discharge declarations and registrations; 240 cities had issued a total of 16,000 pollutant discharge licences to 14,000 enterprises. Since 1979 China has collected 24.7 billion yuan in pollutant discharge fees.

Measures, for preventing and controlling industrial pollution have gradually been improved. First, China has completed a great number of pollution-control projects through the readjustment of the industrial structure and product mix, and promoted clean production through technical transformation. Chemical, metallurgical, light, machine-building, power and building materials industries have actively adopted clean production, speeded up technical transformation and firmly eliminated a large group of equipment and products that caused heavy pollution and consumed large amount of energy and materials. Consequently, industrial production has increased for several years running, the discharge of pollutants has declined steadily and the economic returns of enterprises have gone up year by year. The Jilin Chemical Industrial Company is an old enterprise, but for many years it has relied on progress in science and technology to carry out technical transformation of its production equipment which used to cause a serious waste of resources and produced heavy pollution. As a result, it has fundamentally eliminated the pollution caused by various chemicals. Second, in combination with the comprehensive improvement of the urban environment and regional reconstruction, a number of enterprises which caused heavy pollution have been closed down, moved away or otherwise put under control, thus alleviating the trend of pollution in some regions. The Beijing Municipal Government closed down the heavily polluting south section of the Special Steel Factory of the Capital Iron and Steel Company, eliminating a large pollution source in the city proper. Shanghai has strengthened the prevention and control of pollution in the upper reaches of the Suzhou and Huangpu rivers and in major urban districts, so that pollution in some of the districts has been brought under control. Third, the dynamic [illegible]etting deadlines for eliminating pollution have been reinforced. Since 1978 the Chinese government has announced two groups of scheduled pollution-control projects, totaling 367, and local governments have designated 220,000 pollution-control projects, which have basically been completed. Fourth, the prevention and control of pollution is developing toward regional and river valley comprehensive improvement. Since the late 1980s, the Chinese government has taken measures to comprehensively alleviate air pollution in Benxi and Baotou cities, and water pollution in the Baiyangdian Lake and Huaihe River drainage basins. In 1995, the Chinese government promulgated the "Provisional Regulations on the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution in the Huaihe River Drainage Area," and the work is being actively carried out in accordance with the plan.

Fifth, efforts have been stepped up to save energy and reduce consumption. The capability to treat waste gas, water and industrial residues ("three wastes") has been enhanced and the comprehensive utilization rate of these materials has been increased. During the Eighth Five-Year Plan period (1991-1995) energy consumption for every ten thousand yuan worth of the gross domestic product (GDP) decreased from 5.3 tons of the standard coal in 1990 to 3.94 tons in 1995, saving a grand total of 358 million tons of the standard coal, or an annual average conservation rate of 5.8 percent. In 1995 the waste water treatment rate of the industrial enterprises at and above the county level all over the country reached 76.8 percent; the smog and dust removal rate of waste gas from burning fuel, 88.2 percent; waste gas purification rate from production processes, 68.9 percent; and the comprehensive utilization rate of industrial solid waste, 43 percent. Output value attained through the comprehensive utilization of the industrial "three wastes" came to 19 billion yuan. Starting in 1983, Li Shuangliang, a retired worker of the Taiyuan Iron and Steel Company, and 20 other retired workers spent 10 years removing a huge slag heap, thus eliminating a serious, long-standing pollution source of the Taiyuan Iron and Steel Company. The slag was utilized in a comprehensive way, with 900,000 tons of waste iron and steel worth 160 million yuan recovered.

China is a country with coal as its primary source of energy. Seventy percent of the smog and dust in the air and 90 percent of the sulfur dioxide emission come from coal burning. As a result, the cities with concentrated industries and population suffer from serious air pollution. Acid rain has occurred, and the situation has gone from bad to worse in some regions and cities. The Chinese government has adopted some measures, such as developing clean coal technology and clean-combustion technology, and collecting sulfur dioxide emission fees, to control acid rain. A long-term study by Chinese experts on the issue of acid rain proves that the precursors of acid rain generated from the emission source in Chinese mainland are mainly spread within Chinese territory, mainly in the areas south of the Chang Jiang River, in regions east of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, and in the Sichuan Basin.

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Like other developing countries, China's per capita energy consumption and the emitted sulfur dioxide are much lower than the world average at present, and it will remain so by the end of this century. According to the "framework convention on climatic changes," China is under no specific obligation to limit the emission of carbon dioxide. However, mindful of its responsibility for protection of the global climate, China follows the principle of attaching equal importance to energy conservation and expansion of the energy industry, striving to raise its energy utilization efficiency and to readjust its energy structure. While appropriately developing nuclear power, China spares no effort to develop hydroelectric power and to strengthen research into and exploitation of geothermal power, solar energy, wind energy, oceanic energy and other new energy sources, so as to reduce the greenhouse gas emission.

Since the start of reform and opening up to the outside world, China's GNP has quadrupled, but the growth of the emission of pollutants is clearly slower than the economic growth. Some environmental quality indices of some regions and cities have basically remained stable, and some localities have made improvements to a certain extent. In spite of this, China's industrialization is still in the primary stage of development, with a low level of modernized management. Its industrial distribution and structure need to be further readjusted. With comparatively backward equipment and production technology, the prevention and control of industrial pollution remain an arduous task of environmental protection in China.

The Chinese government has always considered the cities as key points in environmental protection work. In the past 10-odd years China has speeded up urbanization. In 1980 the urban population in China totaled 191.4 million, a figure which rose to 351.71 million in 1995. In 1980 China had 223 administratively designated cities, which went up to 640 in 1995. The urbanization level increased from 19.39 percent in 1980 to 28.85 percent in 1995. Just like other countries, the issue of environmental pollution has also appeared in the course of China's urbanization. Therefore the Chinese government has adopted effective measures to control environmental pollution and done its best to improve the quality of the urban environment.

— Drawing up overall city plans and readjusting the layout of urban functions. By the end of 1995 each of the 640 cities in China had worked out its own overall city plan. So had each of the 31,559 administratively designated towns. In accordance with the "law on city planning," while working out an overall city plan, the city must include in the plan details of environmental protection, such as protecting and improving the city's ecological environment, and preventing and controlling pollution and other public hazards. In light of the requirements of the overall planning, many cities, while transforming the old areas and developing new ones, have, in accordance with the city's function zoning, readjusted the industrial layout, strengthened the prevention and control of industrial pollution, changed the situation in which factories and residents share the same areas, controlled urban environmental pollution caused by production and in people's daily lives, and constructed a large number of residential quarters with reasonable layout and complete social services. In addition, China has designated 52 key environmental protection cities, and put 99 leading national-level historical and cultural cities under special protection.

— Strengthening the construction of infrastructure and improving the capability to prevent and control pollution. At present, 68.4 percent of urban residents in China use gas for cooking and heating; the centralized disposal rate of urban sewage is 20 percent; the innocuity [as received] rate of urban garbage and fecal disposal is 45.4 percent; and the afforestation rate is 23.8 percent. In 1994 Beijing invested 15.13 bill on yuan in the construction of urban infrastructure, of which over five billion yuan was used to construct environmental improvement facilities. It built the Gaobeidian sewage treatment plant, with a daily handling capacity of 500,000 tons, and the large-scale Datun garbage transfer station and Ahsuwei garbage landfill, thus having greatly improved Beijing's overall environment.

Carrying, out comprehensive improvement of the urban environment and improving the quality of the urban environment. Since 1989 the Chinese government has carried out the quantitative examination system of the urban environment comprehensive improvement throughout the country. The state and the provincial governments have carried out such examinations in 37 key cities and other 330-plus cities. The implementation of this system has enhanced the sense of responsibility of leaders at all levels for urban environmental protection, and such examinations have been included in the governments' work agendas. Hence a management system and operation mechanism have taken an initial shape for the comprehensive improvement of the urban environment under the unified leadership of mayors with various relevant departments bearing their respective responsibilities and the people actively participating in it. All cities in China have increased their investment in environmental improvement and speeded up relevant construction. Marked results have been achieved. By 1995 China had constructed 11,333 sq km of smog-and-dust control zones, and 1,800 sq km of up-to-standard

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noise-control zones, and increased public lawns by 490 million square meters. A large number of urban waterways, such as the Zhongdong River in Hangzhou, the Funan River in Chengdu, the Haihe River in Tianjin, the Suzhou River in Shanghai, the Qinhuai River in Nanjing and the Haohe River in Nantong, have been cleaned up on a large scale. Hence, the urban water environment has been improved.

Thanks to comprehensive urban environmental improvement and ecological construction, Benxi City in Liaoning Province has cleared up 21 "smog dragons," 17 polluting wastewater sources and two "mountains" of industrial residue which were notorious sources of pollution. It has also constructed a round-the-city forest park with an area of 220 sq km. Consequently, Benxi, which used to be known as one of "the cities on earth which could not be seen from a satellite" because of air pollution, has made a remarkable improvement in its environment.

IV. Territorial Control and Rural Environmental Protection

Territorial control forms part of China's work in implementing the sustainable development strategy. Since the start of the reform and opening-up era, the Chinese government has carried out territorial control on a large scale.

— New progress has been made in territorial control planning. In this work the Chinese government has formulated a sequence of national, trans-provincial and key-regional territorial control plans, such as the National Program for Overall Land Use Planning, the National Program for Afforestation, the National Plan for Marine Development, the National Program for Water and Soil Conservation, the Comprehensive Plan for China's Seven Major River Valleys, the Plan for Economic Development in the Three Gorges Area, the Economic Plan for the Chang Jiang River Delta and Areas Along the River, Key Points of the Economic Plan for Northwestern Areas, and the Resources Development and Environment Protection Plan for the Juncture of Shanxi, Shaanxi and Inner Mongolia. Some provinces and cities have also drawn up or revised local territorial control plans and the overall plan for land use. By the end of 1995 the overall plan for land use had been completed 60 percent at the provincial level, 69 percent at the city (prefectural) level and 63 percent at the county level.

— Many achievements have been made in research on territorial control. To help formulate the Ninth Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development and the Outline of the Long-Term Target for the Year 2010, the Chinese government, proceeding from realizing coordination and sustainable development of the economy, society, population, resources and environment, has organized research on vital issues such as the development of territorial resources and environmental control, the overall plan for the national territory, and how well mineral resources can satisfy the demands of the national economy. It has also completed the Major Issues on the Development of National Territorial Resources and Environmental Control During 1996-2010 and other research reports on special subjects. The government has laid down the overall framework of optimizing the development and control of territorial resources, the regional development strategy and distribution of territorial resources exploitation, as well as the targets and measures of territorial control and environmental protection.

Notable successes have been attained in the harnessing of main rivers and lakes. Since the foundation of New China in 1949 the Chinese government has taken comprehensive exploitation and control of major rivers and lakes, with emphasis on the prevention and control of flood and waterlogging, as an important task of water conservancy construction. During the Eighth Five-Year Plan period, on the middle and lower reaches of the Chang Jiang River, the lower reaches of the Yellow River, and on the Huaihe, Haihe, Songhua and Liaohe rivers and Lake Taihu, the main dikes were heightened and reinforced, waterways were cleaned up, and flood diversion projects were built. The construction of a group of key projects for water control and other uses were completed or started. To compensate for lack of water resources in northern areas, the Chinese government vigorously promoted the planning and construction of water-diversion projects between different drainage basins. In November 1995 it sponsored an overall feasibility study of the middle, eastern and western lines projects for diverting water from south to north.

The Three Gorges Project is a gigantic, trans-century project for harnessing and developing the Chang Jiang River. When it is completed, floods on the upper reaches will be effectively controlled and areas on the middle and lower reaches will be able to improve their anti-flood capability, thus lessening the harmful effects on the ecological environment. Hydroelectricity, which will be the energy discharged by the project, causes much less pollution than coal-burning power plants. The government has organized experts to work out the Report on the Impact of the Three Gorges Project on the Ecology and Environment, and Countermeasures, and has approved the Environmental Impact Statement of the Three Gorges Project. The government will adopt a sequence of measures to minimize the unfavorable

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effects on the ecology and the environment that could be caused by the Three Gorges Project.

Land preservation, exploitation and control have been promoted on a full scale. In order to put cultivated land under proper protection, basic farmland preservation areas have been delimited all over the country, in accordance with the Regulations on the Protection of Basic Farmland. By the end of 1995, 2,100 units at the county level had finished the work, with well over 70 percent of farmland put under effectual protection. Planned management of the land to be used for construction has been strengthened, putting the total area and makeup of such land under proper control. Random occupation of farmland has been curbed to some extent. In 1995, farmland used for construction was 20.8 percent less than the previous year. In recent years, the government has formulated the Key Points of National Planning for Desertication Control During 1991-2000 to speed up the desertification prevention and control project. It is planned that 6.667 million hectares of desertified land will be treated over 10 years. The development of 20 key counties, nine experimental areas and 22 demonstration bases of the national desertification prevention and control project has been brought into line with the development plan of the national economy. During the Eighth Five-Year Plan period 3.759 million hectares of desertified land were tackled in a comprehensive way. The Chinese government also devotes much attention to water and soil conservation. It has effectively prevented soil erosion and improved the ecological environment and agricultural conditions. At present, 25 key soil erosion control areas have been established at the national level. Water and soil conservation projects are carried out in seven big river valleys. In more than 10,000 small river valleys with serious soil erosion, problems concerning mountains, rivers, farmland and forests are tackled in a comprehensive way. Soil erosion has been checked in a total area of 67 million hectares, and a great number of water and soil conservation projects have been completed, making eroded soil decrease by 1.1 billion tons every year and water conservation capacity increase by 18 billion cubic meters. In the comprehensive soil erosion control area in the Loess Plateau, a total of 15 million hectares of land have been treated — 30 percent of the soil erosion area — with over 300 million tons less silt flowing into the Yellow River every year. Since the publication of the Regulations on Land Reclamation, most of the provinces and cities have worked out procedures for implementation of these regulations and some dozen provinces and autonomous regions have put into effect procedures for raising funds for land reclamation and for the use and administration of these funds. As a result, remarkable progress has been made in the country's reclamation of discarded land. From 1987 to 1995 a total of about 3.5 million hectares of land were reclaimed, among which 600,000 hectares had been waste land. In 1989 the experimental work of land reclamation was carried out in major mineral-producing provinces. In 1995 construction of three national-level reclamation demonstration zones was started in sunken areas of coalfields, while the national reclamation technical standards were stipulated. Tongshan County in Jiangsu Province invested 56 million yuan to reclaim 6,600 hectares of land, basically balancing land reclamation with land use.

— The ability to combat natural disasters has been improved. The Chinese people have accumulated abundant experience in their protracted struggles against natural disasters, in which they laid down principles like "putting prevention first and combining prevention and control," and "combining prevention and rescue." A working system has been primarily established to avert all kinds of natural disasters, and a contingent of experienced scientists and researchers of various disciplines has been organized and monitoring stations and networks for main natural disasters have taken initial shape.

China has traditionally been an agricultural country. In developing agricultural production, the government attaches great importance to rural environmental protection.

— Achievements have been made in eco-agriculture. The government has taken the development of eco-agriculture as an important means to realize the coordinated development of the environment and the economy. At present, the 50 eco-agricultural experimental counties designated by the state are playing positive and exemplary roles in the country, spurring development of eco-agriculture in 10 prefectures and over 100 counties. According to statistics, the total output of grain of the experimental counties has increased by 15 percent, output per mu by upwards of 10 percent, and the income per capita is 12 percent higher than the average level of the surrounding areas. The practice of eco-agriculture has brought about striking improvements in the agricultural ecological environment — barren hills greened, forest acreage greatly raised, soil erosion controlled to some extent, organic matter content of the soil increased, and the ability of the agricultural ecological system to ward off natural disasters improved. In the meantime, in order to promote regional sustainable development, construction of some 100 ecological demonstration areas, mainly at the county level, has been started in an all-round way.

— Further development of rural energy construction. Energy construction in rural areas is an important measure for protecting and improving the rural ecological environment. In 1991 comprehensive energy construction in rural areas was started in 100 counties. As a re-

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sult, the country was capable of increasing 10.8 million tons of standard coal and saving 11.37 million tons annually. In 1995 fuel-saving stoves, methane, solar, wind and geothermal energy sources and small hydropower stations began to develop and were popularized in rural areas throughout the country. In this way, a total of 80 million tons of standard coal can be saved and produced every year. Methane-generating pits for agricultural use were dug to benefit 5.69 million households and fuel-saving stoves were in use in 170 million households.

— Pollution prevention and control in township enterprises have been strengthened. Township enterprises are a strong mainstay of the Chinese rural economy and an important sector of the national economy. Because of their rapid development, the environmental problems they caused attracted the serious attention of the Chinese government and people. In the past decade, environmental management and pollution prevention and control in township enterprises have made some progress. In areas along the eastern coast, the technical and equipment levels of township enterprises have been gradually raised. Centralized pollution control has been carried out, along with construction of small towns, township enterprises zones and economic development zones. All these steps have seen certain outcomes. Zhangjiagang City in Jiangsu Province is spurring its economy to develop rapidly while paying due attention to prevention of environmental pollution by township enterprises. It has thus realized a coordinated development of both the environment and the economy. Township enterprises in the central and western areas have been actively guided, aided and supervised to prevent environmental pollution spreading. It should be pointed out that environmental protection in township enterprises is still an arduous task, and that the government will keep guiding them to develop in a healthy way, preventing and alleviating environmental pollution through reinforced environmental management.

— Development of green and organic foods is welcomed. In order to meet the people's increasing demands for high-quality food, and to protect agricultural natural resources and the ecological environment, relevant departments began in 1990 to develop "green food," featuring pollution-free, safe, high-quality and nutritious contents. By the end of 1995 a total of 568 sorts of green food had been developed, with many becoming well-known products. Since the start of the development of green food, 1.13 million hectares of land have been well protected. In 1995 a government department published the Procedures on the Administration of Organic (Natural) Food Labelling. Organic (natural) food unpolluted by chemical fertilizers and farm chemicals has now appeared in China.

V. Protection of the Ecological Environment and Biodiversity

The Chinese government regards ecological environmental protection as the focal point of its environmental protection work. Through protracted efforts the country has made outstanding achievements in the protection and nurturing of the ecological environment.

— Achievements have been made in afforestation. Since the 1950s the Chinese government has organized large-scale tree planting activities and stepped up efforts for the fostering, protection and management of forest resources and consequently has made great progress in rational utilization of forest resources. Since the reform and opening up the afforestation has been quickened, with the quantity increased annually and the quality improved continuously, thus basically eliminating the deficit in forest reserves which had existed for a long period, while the growth of forests has begun to exceed consumption. As a result, the era of increase both in forest acreage and reserve has dawned on the country. Currently, China's forest area totals 134 million hectares, bringing the country's forest coverage up to 13.92 percent. Artificial afforestation covers 33.79 million hectares. Volunteers have contributed a total of 4.4 billion person-times to planting 23 billion trees. Once- barren mountains suitable for tree planting in 12 provinces and autonomous regions are now clothed with greenery.

The government has paid special attention to the construction of forest ecological projects. Since 1978 China has established 10 forest ecological projects, with a scheduled afforestation area of 120 million hectares — aimed mainly at protecting and improving the natural eco-environment and realizing the sustainable use of natural resources. These projects are: the "three norths" shelterbelts (the western area of Northeast, and the northern parts of North and Northwest China), the shelterbelts along the upper and middle reaches of the Yangtze River, the coastal shelterbelts, the plain farmland shelterbelts, the Taihang Mountains afforestation project, the anti-desertification project, the shelterbelts for comprehensive control in the Huaihe River and Taihu Lake basins, the shelterbelts for comprehensive control in the Pearl River basin, the shelterbelts for comprehensive control in the Liaohe River basin, and the shelterbelts along the middle reaches of the Yellow River. Currently, the "three norths" shelterbelts project has finished its first and second phases, resulting in a newly afforested area of 18.51 million hectares and increasing the forest coverage from 5.05 to 8.2 percent. This project has turned more than 40,000 sq [square] km of barren land into green one and more than 1.3 million hectares of desert land into farmland, pastures and or-

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chards. Twelve percent of the total desertified land has been worked on, and 10 percent of it has been brought under control, more than 11 million hectares of farmland has been protected by forest networks, while 8.93 million hectares of grassland have been restored, resulting in a 20-odd percent increase in grass output. The agricultural eco-environment in one third of the counties covered by the "three norths" project has entered a benign circle. The shelterbelts project along the upper and middle reaches of the Yangtze River has yielded a total of more than 5.46 million hectares of newly planted forest in seven years. A grand total of 1.6 million hectares of forest has appeared since coastal shelterbelts project was launched in an all-round way in 1991, which basically covers the 18,000-kilometer-long coastline. A total of 769 counties and cities covered by the plain farmland shelterbelts have reached their tree-planting goals, accounting for 84 percent of the total 918 counties and cities in the plain areas. The Taihang Mountains afforestation project has already produced a total of 1.02 million hectares of afforested area since it was launched in 1994. The above large-scale eco-system construction projects have gradually improved the eco-environment in a considerable number of areas.

— Grassland construction has made initial progress. The protection and management of grassland resources is reinforced by governments at all levels in line with the Grassland Law, and activities such as unauthorized reclamation, excessive digging and overgrazing are forbidden. With the combined efforts of the state, the collective and individuals, grassland construction and control over grassland desertification and deterioration have been strengthened. According to statistics, the total area of artificially sown grass and improved meadows has reached 11.757 million hectares, and that of fenced meadows, 8.333 million hectares. The 49 key comprehensive demonstration projects for grassland stockbreeding constructed by the state have made great achievements. By the end of 1994 a total of 5.638 million hectares of artificially sown grass had been completed, which has blazed a new trail for developing animal husbandry and ecological environmental protection in the areas with arid and desertified land and those with serious soil erosion.

— Marine environmental protection has been strengthened. Marine environmental protection is a major component of China's environmental protection efforts, as the country has a vast maritime territory. A series of laws and regulations concerning marine environmental protection has been published, and a nationwide marine environment monitoring network has been set up. Coastal waters have been divided up into zones for administration and effective environmental management is practiced for offshore construction projects, offshore petroleum exploitation and wastes disposal so that marine pollution and resources destruction are taken well in hand, and efforts have been made to prevent "red tide" and protect offshore fishery resources. By the end of 1995 14 national-level marine nature reserves had been set up. The water quality in most of China's maritime zones and the surrounding ecological environment have been basically kept in good condition.

The Chinese government has for a long time made unremitting efforts for biodiversity conservation, formulating the China Program for Nature Conservation and China's Action Plan for the Conservation of Biodiversity, containing the policy, strategy and key fields and priority projects for biodiversity conservation.

China has adopted the on-site conservation and off-site preservation methods to protect biodiversity. Currently, there are 612 national-level rare and endangered species of flora and fauna listed as key protection species, including 258 species of wild animals and 354 species of plants. Artificial reproduction has been successfully implemented for more than 60 species of rare and endangered wild animals, and through propagation, such species as David's deer, wild horse and saiga tatarica have been re-introduced.

Establishing nature reserves is the most effective method for the on-site conservation of wild plants and animals. By the end of 1995 799 nature reserves of rather diversified types, covering a total area of 71.85 million hectares (or 7.19 percent of China's territory) had been established in China. There are 99 national- level reserves, of which ten — Jilin's Changbai Mountains, Sichuan's Wolong, Guizhou's Fanjing Mountains, Hubei's Shennongjia, Fujian's Wuyi Mountains, Xinjiang's Mt. Bogda, Guangdong's Dinghu Mountains, Inner Mongolia's Xilingol, Jiangsu's Yancheng and Yunnan's Xishuangbanna — have been listed in the International Network of Men and Biosphere Reserves. Another six nature reserves — Zhalong in Heilongjiang, Xianghai in Jilin, Boyang Lake in Jiangxi, East Dongting Lake in Hunan, Bird Island in Qinghai and Dongzhai Harbor in Hainan — have been included in the list of the world's important wetlands. At present, a total of 512 historic and scenic sites has been designated, of which 119 are at the national level, 256 at the provincial level and 137 at the city or county level, covering a total area of 9.6 million hectares. Forest parks total 710, of which 248 are at the national level. Scenic spots at Huangshan Mountain, Wulingyuan, Jiuzhaigou and Huanglong are listed as parts of the world natural and cultural heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The establishment of nature reserves

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has put a number of representative and typical natural eco-systems with scientific research value as well as rare and endangered species under effective protection.

— Establishing zoological gardens, botanical gardens and various artificial breeding centers is an effective method for off-site preservation of various species of wild animals and plants. By the end of 1995 China had set up 175 zoological gardens and zoological exhibition sites in public parks, 227 artificial breeding centers for wild animals, more than 60 large botanical gardens and 255 wild plant gene and cell banks to ensure the continuation of rare and endangered species of plants and animals, including the giant panda, Chinese alligator, Chinese sturgeon, white-flag dolphin, Manchurian tiger, crested ibis, Cathay silver fir, dovetree, Cycas revoluta and camellia chrysantha tuyama. In addition, China has established some dozen specimen centers, one gene bank and two cell banks for wild animals, which have helped genetic polymorphism research and preservation work. The medicinal use of and trade in rhinoceros horn and tiger bone are strictly prohibited by the government, and the illegal hunting of rare wild animals is severely punished by law.

The government has placed much stress on the preservation of the genetic materials from domestic animals and fowls, as well as germ plasma resources from crops. There are 596 species of livestock and poultry in China, of which over 70 percent are native species. The government has appropriated special funds for preservation of some endangered or sharply diminishing species of livestock and poultry and established a germ plasma gene bank for livestock forage grass. China had initially formed a preservation system for germ plasma resources from crops, including one national germ plasma bank for long-term preservation and a duplicate one, 23 local germ plasma banks for mid-term preservation, and 25 national germ plasma nurseries, of which two are for test-tube culture. The germ plasma resources of most agricultural plants in China are preserved, including 330,000 specimens of germ plasma for various species of crops, of which 300,000 have duplicates.

The government also attaches great importance to the environmental protection of the Tibet Autonomous Region. The environmental quality in Tibet today has been kept in an excellent condition. The atmospheric environment there has attained the state's first-level quality and the water quality of major rivers and lakes is also higher than the national standard for the surface waters environmental quality. Forests and grasslands are under effective preservation. The forest area in Tibet totals 7.17 million hectares and the stumpage, 2.084 billion cubic meters. The total grassland area amounts to 82.07 million hectares, of which 70.77 million hectares are usable. With an elevation of 4,700 meters, Namco Lake has become a natural habitat for rare water birds like swans, egrets and sand birds.

Viewed from an overall situation, however, many problems still exist — the shortage of the forest area, grassland degradation, soil erosion, desertification and difficulties in the protection of rare and endangered species of wild animals and plants. Thus, the further strengthening of the preservation of the ecological environment and biodiversity remains an important task for the Chinese government to tackle.

— VI. Environmental Science and Technology, and Environmental Publicity and Education

Through adopting the strategy of "relying on science and education to rejuvenate the nation," China has made initial achievements in actively accelerating the development of environmental science and technology:

— The research spectrum of environmental science and technology has been steadily broadened. Research into environmental science and technology in China began in the 1970s. As an important part of scientific and technological work, it has always won great attention from the state. For some major environmental research subjects the Chinese government has formulated corresponding research programs and plans for environmental protection while organizing forces to tackle key scientific and technological problems. Besides, China has expanded its research into comprehensive prevention and control of regional environmental pollution, environmental background values and environmental capacity, pollution control technology and global environmental problems. As a result, the country has made substantial scientific and technological achievements in some research areas, such as the comprehensive prevention and control of Beijing's environmental pollution, the capacity of the atmospheric environment, the background value and environmental capacity of the nation's major soils, acid deposition and its impact and control, the forecasting and monitoring of the influence of the changes in the global climate and corresponding countermeasures, the depollution of coal, and the control of air pollution. China has also developed research in such fields as regional environmental impact assessment, environmental management and environmental economy, environmental monitoring technology and equipment, the protection of natural ecology, and the relationship between the environment and people's health. This provides scientific basis and technological support for environmental management, the prevention and control of pollution, and ecological protection.

— The numbers of research institutes and personnel engaged in environmental protection have been steadily in-

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creased. By the end of 1995 some 390 scientific research bodies engaged in environmental protection had been established nationwide, staffed by more than 20,000 research and managerial personnel. A comprehensive scientific research system composed of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, competent departments of different trades, colleges and universities, and the environmental protection departments has been basically built up.

— Work regarding the screening, evaluation and popularization of the optimum and practical technology for environmental protection has been organized. The popularization of the optimum and practical technology is an important measure to expedite the transformation of environmental scientific and technological achievements into the capability of actual pollution prevention and control. During the Eighth Five-Year Plan period, 1,316 kinds of practical technology were recommended nationwide, and 438 of them were appraised as the optimum items of practical technology. Among them, 385 kinds have been put into use in 140,000 units, resulting in reduced emission of the "three wastes" and good economic returns.

— The development of the environmental protection industry has been fostered. This newly emerging industry involves the development of technology, manufacturing of products, circulation of commodities, utilization of resources, provision of information, and undertaking of contracted projects. China gives priority to the development of the environmental protection industry, with the guidelines of "actively fostering, adjusting the structure, relying on science and technology, improving quality, orienting to the market and providing excellent services." Preferential policies are given to investment, prices, taxes, etc., to encourage the development of the environmental protection industry. A general survey of the nation's environmental protection industry, the results of which were made public in May 1996, shows that there are 8,651 units engaged in the environmental protection industry, which is staffed by 1.882 million people and boasts 45.011 billion yuan worth of fixed assets, an annual output value of 31.148 billion yuan and 4.091 billion yuan in profits.

— The development of environmental labels has entered the stage of implementation. In March 1993 China began to carry out a plan for environment labelling. By April 1996 the environmental label certification work had been developed in 11 categories of products, and 35 kinds of products from 21 enterprises had been awarded environmental labels. As the environmentally-labelled products enter millions of households the environmental label will exert a growing influence in society.

The Chinese government regards it a strategic task to actively develop environmental publicity and education and to raise the nation's consciousness about the importance of environmental protection.

— China strives to popularize environmental protection knowledge among the people and raise their consciousness about environmental protection and gradually to cultivate fine environmental ethics and codes of conduct. As early as in the 1970s, popular science textbooks on environmental protection were compiled or translated into Chinese to widely introduce environmental protection knowledge and enlighten the people on such knowledge. Since the 1980s large-scale publicity activities have been organized all over the country every year on World Environment Day, Tree Planting Day, Love the Birds Week, etc. In recent years the Chinese media has been further promoting publicity and reports on environmental protection. Virtually all newspapers, radio and TV stations frequently offer environmental protection programs, and, in particular, the media pays special attention to severely polluted areas and units. Since 1993 the media's "China Trans-century Environmental Protection Inspection Campaign," centered on news about environmental law enforcement, has aroused a nationwide response and accelerated the solution to a number of major environmental problems. Meanwhile, the various provinces and cities have also developed such activities. In the past three years, 1,500 journalists from 750 news units have participated in these activities, engendering more than 10,000 news articles. Of these, television news items alone accounted for 1,600.

In 1983 China established the first national-level professional newspaper on environmental protection in the world — the CHINA ENVIRONMENT NEWS, with an annual circulation of nearly 300,000 copies. In 1980 the China Environmental Science Press was established. By 1995 it had published over five million copies of books of 860 titles on the environment. Since 1990 the China Environment Yearbook has been published, and its English version also published since 1994. Besides, there are more than 30 local environmental newspapers and several hundred professional periodicals.

The Chinese government encourages the whole of society to participate in environmental publicity and education activities. In recent years the environmental protection departments, educational departments, cultural departments, news units, organizations for women and youth, scientific associations and academic societies have all developed their own environmental publicity and educational activities, highlighted by the following aspects:

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— Higher education has provided a great number of scientific, technological and managerial personnel for environmental protection work. A total of 140 colleges and universities, including Beijing University, Qinghua University, the People's University of China, Beijing Normal University, Nanjing University, Tongji University and Wuhan University, all have departments of or majors in environmental studies, with a total of 206 units having the authority of awarding bachelor's degrees. Approved by the Academic Degrees Committee under the State Council, there are 223 units granting master's degrees in 51 majors concerning the environment, 77 units granting doctorates in 39 majors, and several postdoctorate positions. Furthermore, more than 40 specialized secondary schools and over 100 vocational high schools also offer environmental courses. Over the past 20 years, large numbers of specialists trained by China's professional environmental education have become a significant force in the environmental protection field.

— On-the-job training has enhanced the quality of environmental managerial personnel. In 1981 the Environmental Administrative Personnel Training College was established for the purpose of offering on-the-job training, continuing education and academic- level education to administrative personnel in the environmental protection departments throughout the country. By the end of 1995 over 5,200 trainees had completed courses there. These skill- enhanced trainees are playing an important role in promoting the nation's environmental protection work. Moreover, proceeding from the actual needs, various types of environmental training classes and symposiums have been held by various localities and departments concerned. Statistics show that over the past decade, more than 10,000 training classes have been held and attended by over 400,000 persons.

— Basic environmental education has cultivated and enhanced young people's environmental consciousness. In recent years, environmental education has been offered in high schools, primary schools and kindergartens throughout the country to cultivate the children's loving-the-nature quality and sense of responsibility for environmental protection.

China is a populous country with underdeveloped education and the nation's consciousness about the environment remains to be further enhanced. Therefore, it will be a long-term, arduous task to do well in environmental publicity and education in China.

— VII. Taking Vigorous Action to Promote International Cooperation in Environmental Protection

China consistently holds that economic development should be coordinated with environmental protection; protection of the environment is a common task for mankind, but the economically developed countries should take more responsibility in this respect. It always maintains that the strengthening of international cooperation should be based on respecting national sovereignty, the protection of the environment and the spurring of development can not be done without peace and stability in the world, and both practical interests of various countries and long-term interests of the world should be considered in handling environmental problems.

While a series of measures for solving its own environmental problems are being taken China has participated, actively and in a practical manner, in international cooperation in the environmental protection field and made sustained efforts to promote global environmental protection as a common task of mankind.

China supports and actively participates in the environmental activities launched by the UN organizations. China has been a member state of the successive UN Environment Program (UNEP) Governing Council and fruitful cooperation has been carried out between China and the UNEP. In 1979 China joined the UNEP's "Global Environment Monitoring System," "International Registry of Potentially Toxic Chemicals" and "International Environmental Information System." In 1987 a head-office for research and training in international desertification control was established by the UNEP in Lanzhou, capital of northwest China's Gansu Province. China has passed its experiences and techniques on controlling desertification and building ecological agriculture on to many countries through the UNEP. By 1996 a total of 18 units or persons in China had won the "Global 500" title awarded by the UNEP. Good cooperative relationships have been forged between China and the UN Development Program, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and other international organizations. At present, an effective mode of cooperation for the use and management of multilateral funds of the Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer and the Global Environmental Facility as well as loans from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank has been established. This has played an active role in promoting prevention and control of China's pollution and in improving environmental management ability. China is a member of the UN Committee on Sustainable Development, set up in 1993, and has played a constructive role in this

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high-level political forum on the global environment and development. China has kept a close cooperative relationship with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and other relevant organizations, and has made contributions to environmental causes and the development of the Asian and Pacific regions through participating in the Northeast Asia environmental cooperation, the Northwest Pacific Action Plan, and the Regional Coordinating Unit for the East Asian Seas Action Plan.

China has actively developed bilateral cooperation in the field of environmental protection. Over the past ten-odd years China has successively signed bilateral environmental protection cooperation agreements and memorandums of understanding with the United States, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Canada, India, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Russia, Germany, Australia, Ukraine, Finland, Norway, Denmark, and the Netherlands. Exchanges and cooperation have been carried out in environmental planning and management, global environment problems, pollution control and prevention, protection of forests and wild animals and plants, marine environment, climate change, air pollution, acid rain and sewage disposal and important achievements have been made in these respects. China has also taken part in the Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment, as proposed by the United States.

In order to promote further international cooperation in the environment and development field, China set up the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development in April 1992, composed of more than 40 leading specialists and well- known public figures from China and other countries, to be responsible for submitting proposals and advisory opinions to the Chinese government. The Council has put forward valuable concrete proposals on energy and the environment, biodiversity protection, ecological agriculture, resources accounting and the pricing system, public participation and the implementation of the environment laws and regulations, which have aroused the attention and response of the Chinese government.

China took an active part in the preparations for and in attending the UN Conference on Environment and Development. It made great efforts for the smooth convening of the Conference. China has taken part in all the preparatory meetings of the Conference and played a constructive role in discussions and negotiations concerning international environment conventions. In June 1991 the Ministerial Conference of Developing Countries on Environment and Development, proposed by China and held in Beijing, was participated in by 41 developing countries, and the Beijing Declaration published by it set forth the principled stand of the developing countries on environment and development, making substantial contributions to the preparation of the UN Conference. In line with the requirements of the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the UN Conference on Environment and Development, China worked out the Report on the Environment and Development of the People's Republic of China, which gave an overall exposition on the current situation of China's environment and development, put forward strategic measures for coordinated development of China's environment and economy and set forth China's principled stand on the problems of the global environment, which have received favorable comments from the international community.

— In June 1992 Song Jian, state councilor and director of the Environmental Protection Commission of the State Council, led a Chinese government delegation to the UN Conference on Environment and Development. Chinese Premier Li Peng attended the summit meeting of the Conference and made an important speech proposing the strengthening of international cooperation in the field of environment and development, winning positive comments from the international community. On behalf of the Chinese government, Li Peng took the lead in signing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity, exerting a positive influence on the meeting.

Since 1979 China has signed a series of international environmental conventions and agreements, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, Basel Convention on Control of Trans-Boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer (revised version), Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on Combating Desertification, Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat, and 1972 London Convention.

China always conscientiously carries out its responsibilities for international environmental conventions and agreements which it has signed, approved or joined. Under the guidance of China's Agenda 21, in order to conscientiously undertake its promised duties China has worked out some important documents and state programs or action plans, including the 21st Century Agenda on Environmental Protection, Action Plan for the Conservation of Biodiversity, Action Plan for Forestry in the 21st Century Agenda, and the 21st Cen-

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tury Marine Agenda. The Chinese government approved the State Plan for Gradually Eliminating Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer and put forward a plan and policy framework for eliminating controlled materials as well as measures for controlling or banning the production and extensive use of substances which deplete the ozone layer. In July 1994, with the support of the UN Development Program, the Chinese government successfully held in Beijing the High-level International Round-Table Conference on Agenda 21, which contributed to the promotion of the nation's sustainable development. To provide legal basis for preventing environmental pollution by the importation of wastes, in November 1995 China published the Emergency Announcement on Strictly Controlling Trans- Boundary Movement of Wastes to China, and in March 1996 it published the Provisional Regulations on Environmental Protection and Management of Wastes' Importation.

Concluding Remarks

After more than 20 years of unremitting efforts, China has achieved successes in environmental protection that have attracted worldwide attention. In spite of this, the Chinese government clearly knows that waste of resources and environmental pollution in the country are quite serious because China is in the development stage of rapidly promoting industrialization and still practices the extensive production and management methods. Along with population increase and economic development, this problem will become more prominent. It is still a long-term and arduous task to solve the environmental problems left over by history and control the environmental problems that appear in the process of development.

In the process of the reform and opening up and the modernization drive, China will continue conscientiously to carry out the basic national policy on environmental protection and implement the sustainable development strategy.

During the Ninth Five-Year Plan period (1996-2000) the Chinese government will put into effect a series of important environmental protection measures, including the China Trans-century Green Project, and realize the objectives of the struggle for environmental protection as put forward in the Ninth Five-Year Plan of the People's Republic of China for National Economic and Social Development and the Outline of the Long-Term Target for the Year 2010. It will do its utmost to bring the aggravating tendency in environmental pollution and ecological destruction basically under control and improve the environmental quality of cities and regions.

Mankind still faces a great many of difficulties in solving the problems of the environment and development, and there is a long way to go. China will, as it did in the past, cooperate for the same aim with the other countries of the world and strive for protection of the global environment in which mankind lives, and for the common prosperity of humanity.

PRC: Beijing To Improve Control Over State Assets

OW0306121296 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0227 GMT 20 May 96

[By reporter Zhang Jinsheng (1728 6930 0524)]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing, 20 May (XINHUA) — At a recent interview with this reporter, Zhu Zhigang, deputy director of the National Administration of State Property [NASP], pointed out: We should understand the situation better, unify our concepts, specify tasks, actively expand the scope of properties whose ownership need to be registered, enhance the contributions of the work of registering property ownership, and comprehensively implement State Council Decree No. 192 so as to intensify efforts in various tasks of registering and managing the ownership of state assets. Zhu Zhigang also answered the reporter's questions on issues related to registering and managing the ownership of enterprises' state assets, including progress in related work, its role, existing problems, and principal tasks in the next two years.

[Zhang] What are the accomplishments in the work of registering the ownership of enterprises' state assets over the past five years?

[Zhu] China began to register the ownership of enterprises' state assets in 1990. In accordance with the guidelines of the "State Council Circular on Strengthening the Management of State Assets," the NASP, the Ministry of Finance, and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce jointly issued in December 1990 the "Procedures (Experimental) For Registering and Managing the Ownership of State Assets" [hereafter termed the "procedures (experimental)"], and began to implement the "procedures (experimental)" in some provinces and departments on a trial basis in 1990. After amending the "procedures (experimental)" in accordance with the guidelines of the State Council General Office's "Circular on Relaying the NASP and Other Departments' 'Request on Registering the Ownership of State Assets Across China in 1992'," the NASP, the Ministry of Finance, and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce jointly issued on 11 May 1992 the "Experimental Procedures for Registering and Managing the Ownership of State Assets," and began to register the ownership of enterprises' state assets across China. By the end of 1994, 290,000 enterprises with state capital, rights, and interests worth 3,052,278,000,000 yuan

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have registered the ownership of their state assets. On 25 January 1996, Premier Li Peng signed State Council Decree No. 192 and promulgated the "Procedures for Registering and Managing the Ownership of Enterprises' State Assets." It was the third State Council decree on managing state assets after the "Procedures for Evaluating and Managing State Assets" and the "Regulations on Supervising and Managing State Enterprises' Assets." The promulgation of the Decree No. 192 indicated that China has advanced to a higher stage for registering and managing property ownership.

[Zhang] What are the problems in the work of registering and managing property ownership that need improvement or solution?

[Zhu] The major existing problems in the work of registering property ownership are as follows: We have not covered all the enterprises that need to register the ownership of their state assets due to the following reasons: First, many collectively owned enterprises with state assets have yet to screen and appraise their assets, and to verify and register the ownership of these state assets. Second, the system whereby enterprises are required to submit combined financial and accounting reports is not yet compulsory. Many state enterprises have formed a number of subsidiary enterprises, but the parent enterprises are not yet required to issue combined financial and accounting reports to reveal the subsidiaries' asset ownership as part of the parent enterprises' state capital, rights, and interests. Third, some state enterprises have failed to register after conducting organizational restructuring. Fourth, Chinese state-owned shares in Sino-foreign jointly funded and cooperative enterprises do not specifically list their investing entities. Consequently, the ownership of these shares has not been properly registered. Fifth, we have yet to further strengthen and improve the registration of the ownership of overseas enterprises' assets. Sixth, because of our own inefficiency, we have omitted to register and manage the property ownership of a small number of enterprises.

We have yet to let the work of registering property ownership play its full role whereby it serves as an important means for the government to monitor enterprises' state assets. It is particularly so in supervising changes in the ownership of enterprises' state assets. After changing property ownership, quite a number of enterprises have not registered these changes. Therefore, as of now, NASP departments do not have a complete record of all the changes in the ownership of enterprises' state assets. Responsible figures in a small number of localities and departments fail to fully understand the importance and role of the work of registering and managing property ownership. They are accustomed to applying traditional methods to manage enterprises, and fail to attach due importance to the work of registering and managing property ownership.

The system governing the work of registering property ownership is still inadequate. First, the organizations in charge of registering and managing property ownership are deficient. As of now, some provinces, municipalities, or departments have yet to form special organizations or to allocate full-time personnel. Second, relevant rules and regulations are not yet comprehensive, thereby restricting the authoritativeness and effectiveness in the work of registering and managing property ownership. Third, the summarized analysis tables of data on property ownership registrations are not issued promptly. We will complete an annual inspection of the previous year's property ownership registrations on 1 April every year; and generally we can only produce the analysis tables of data on property ownership registrations after October in that year. Fourth, we need to further improve the quality of personnel in charge of registering and managing property ownership.

[Zhang] What are the problems in the work of registering and managing property ownership that the NASP will make special efforts to improve in the next two years?

[Zhu] At present, after basically concluding the work of screening and appraising its assets across the country, China has preliminarily ascertained the actual situation of its assets. The NASP will make special efforts to systematize and standardize our work in basically managing state assets. Consequently, as an important measure for fulfilling the "Regulations on Supervising and Managing State Enterprises' Assets," we specifically proposed to implement State Council Decree No. 192. We should earnestly and properly handle the following major tasks in the next two years:

We should publish, as soon as possible, a number of general and specific complementary rules and regulations for the implementation of the "Procedures for Registering and Managing the Ownership of Enterprises' State Assets." We should properly register the ownership of enterprises' state assets after the enterprises have screened and appraised their assets. We should legally certify enterprises' share of the state capital, rights, and interests; consolidate the accomplishments in the work of screening and appraising assets; formulate standard basic points for enterprises to maintain and increase the value of their state assets; and standardize and include these data under the government's jurisdiction for supervising and managing state property. Under the current situation where enterprises' property ownership changes frequently and where a re-

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form is ongoing whereby attention is paid to large enterprises whereas small enterprises are ignored, we should earnestly and properly register and manage the changes in property ownership so that related tasks will really become an effective means for the government to supervise changes in the ownership of enterprises' state assets. We should further expand the scope of properties whose ownership need to be registered and managed and ensure that while carrying out the work on property ownership registrations, we do not have repetitions or omissions. First, we should formulate and promulgate a policy document demarcating the property ownership of enterprises that are "collectively-operated by the public" and rationally include these enterprises under the government's jurisdiction for registering and managing their property ownership. Second, we should properly register and manage the ownership of Chinese state-owned shares in companies and Sino-foreign joint-venture enterprises by proceeding to specify various related investing entities. Third, we should facilitate cooperation with other departments, including the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, to strengthen the registration and management of the ownership of overseas enterprises' state assets. Fourth, we should facilitate cooperation with various departments, including the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of Finance, and banking; make greater law-enforcement efforts; enhance the authoritativeness in the work of registering and managing property ownership; ensure that a small number of enterprises register their property ownership; and rectify irrational capital structure in enterprises. We should act in accordance with the requirements of the State Council Decree No. 192, and establish a system for enterprises to annually report on their operations of state assets. Such reports will be the bases for annually evaluating enterprises' performances in maintaining and raising the value of their state assets, thereby organically integrating the work of registering and managing property ownership and the work of evaluating enterprises' performances in maintaining and raising the value of their state assets. Additionally, we should further strengthen the development of organizations and the contingent of personnel in charge of registering and managing property ownership; supplement and improve facilities that record, handle, and analyze data; establish data bases and telecommunications networks; and improve the quality and timeliness of the reports that register the property ownership of state assets and that analyze related changes in the property ownership so as to more effectively provide references for the government's macroeconomic decisionmaking processes.

PRC: Hu Jintao Attends Forum on Enterprise Reform

OW0406001996 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0852 GMT 1 Jun 96

[By reporter Chen Yan (7115 7159)]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing, 1 Jun (XINHUA) — A seminar for provincial and ministerial-level cadres to study party building in state enterprises ended in Beijing yesterday. The seminar's participants held: In the course of deepening reform, developing a socialist market economy, and establishing a modern enterprise system, we should uphold the party's political leadership over state enterprises, energetically carry out party building in enterprises, and bring into full play the role of party organizations as the political core. This unique advantage of ours is the fundamental guarantee for the smooth reform and development of enterprises as well as a major issue having an overall bearing on the socialist modernization drive.

While the seminar was in session, Hu Jintao, Political Bureau Standing Committee member and Secretariat member of the CPC Central Committee, attended a discussion with seminar participants. After listening to their remarks, Hu Jintao spoke highly of the seminar, noting that it had achieved the anticipated results; he also discussed with them several questions concerning party building in enterprises.

The seminar, which lasted 26 days, was held under the auspices the CPC Central Committee's Organization Department, the Central Policy Research Center, the Central Party School, and the State Economic and Trade Commission. It was participated in by more than 40 senior officials of party and government organizations from some provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities, and major large and medium cities; senior officials from relevant central and state departments and commissions; and party secretaries, chairmen, and directors of some large state enterprises. During the seminar, its participants adhered to the principle of integrating theory with practice in conducting serious studies, repeated deliberations, and in-depth discussions; and, on the basis of pooling the wisdom of all, further clarified thinking and achieved a consensus on the questions on upholding the party's political leadership over enterprises, on bringing into full play the role of party organizations as the political core of enterprises, on improving the quality of enterprise leading bodies and managers, and on building up party organizations in enterprises.

The participants held: The further we promote reform and opening up and develop a socialist market economy, the more necessary it is to strengthen party leadership.

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The party's political leadership lies mainly in upholding the leadership of the party's line, principles, and policies and guaranteeing the implementation of laws and regulations promulgated by the state; in persisting in the principle that the party administers cadres, selects and recommends state asset representatives and managers according to the law, and conducts their training, evaluation, and supervision; and in bringing into full play party organizations' role as the political core and party members' exemplary vanguard role.

They held: The principle of "bringing into full play the role of party organizations as the political core, persisting in and perfecting the directors' (managers') responsibility system, and wholeheartedly relying on the working class," which sums up our party's practical experiences in exploring an enterprise leadership system with Chinese characteristics over a long time, is crucial for effective management of enterprises. We must comprehensively implement the three aspects of this principle, because they are an integrated whole and are interdependent, and neither of them is dispensable. Only when work in all these three aspects is improved and strengthened can we harness the enthusiasm of enterprises in all fields and make a concerted effort to improve enterprise performance.

They held: The need to bring into full play the role of party organizations as the political core of enterprises is determined by our party's leading status and the nature of socialism's dictate, and this is also an intrinsic requirement for establishing a modern enterprise system with Chinese characteristics. In bringing into play party organizations' role as the political core, we should emphasize, in particular, two points: First, we must see to it that enterprise party organizations take part in making major policy decisions; guarantee and supervise the implementation of the party's line, principles, and policies implemented in enterprises; and support and assist the board of directors and enterprise directors (managers) in making policy decisions in a democratic, scientific way and in avoiding and minimizing major blunders. Second, we must uphold the principle of the party administering cadres; earnestly implement the party's line, principles, and policies on cadres; persist in stressing both political integrity and talent and appointing people on merit; do things strictly according to the party constitution and relevant laws and regulations; and effectively administer cadres in light of the realities in each enterprise.

They held: Enterprise party organizations should carry out their work in close conjunction with production and management, viewing successful enterprise reform, change of operating mechanisms, promotion of scientific management, improved economic efficiency, and maintenance and increase of asset value as the starting points and final objectives of the work of party organizations. As far as the specific requirements of party building in enterprises are concerned, the participants called for building a united, strong, and competent leading body which resolutely implements the party's line, principles, and policies and is supported by workers at large; for training a contingent of party members who are full of fighting capability and can bring into play an exemplary vanguard role; and for establishing a complete set of mechanisms and forms of operations and activities in keeping with the modern enterprise system, as well a complete set of rules and regulations for enterprise party organizations to conduct activities, to solve problems, and to do their work well.

By drawing analyses and comparisons of some enterprises, the participants became further aware of the importance of leading bodies to the successful management of enterprises. At present, the quality of leading bodies and managers of state enterprises is generally good; but problems do exist, and they merit attention. Therefore, it is necessary to take a firm and effective grip on the strategic task of improving the quality of state enterprise leading bodies and managers. We should attach importance to both the ideological and political quality and the professional competence of members of leading bodies in selecting top party and government leaders of each enterprise. We should actively promote personnel system reform in enterprises under the premise that the party administers cadres, and in the spirit that management of personnel and management of affairs should proceed hand in hand as well as being a reasonable check against each other. We should improve the overall functions of leading bodies, establish effective incentives for and restraints on managers, and strengthen supervision over enterprise directors.

They held: As workers of state enterprises form the mainstay of the working class, we should implement even more the principle of wholeheartedly relying on the working class in state enterprises, relying on the broad masses of workers politically, guaranteeing them institutionally, improving them in quality, and protecting them in their rights and interests. Enterprise party organizations should strengthen their leadership and support for workers' congresses and trade unions, doing everything possible to unite the masses of workers in managing enterprises well.

Yesterday's closing ceremony was officiated over by Zhang Quanjing, director of the CPC Central Committee's Organization Department. Wang Jialiu, executive vice president of the Central Party School; Wang Zhongyu, minister in charge of the State Economic and Trade Commission; Zheng Keyang, deputy director of

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the Central Policy Research Center; and senior officials from the State Economic Restructuring Commission, the Ministry of Personnel and the All- China Federation of Trade Unions attended. Students of the fifth training class sponsored by the Central Organization Department also attended.

PRC: Urban Poverty-Stricken Population Drops 2.84 Million

OW0606112696 Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in English 1000 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] June 6 (CNS) — A survey conducted by the City Survey Team of the State Statistical Bureau relating to urban poverty situation indicated that China's urban poverty- stricken population had been declining continuously with 12.42 million such population in 1995, a drop of 2.84 million compared with the year before.

The drop in poverty-stricken population in 1995 was attributed to the central government's effort in controlling inflation as well as the minimum wage system introduced by local governments and the provision of subsidies to poor families living below the poverty line. As a result, the number of poverty-stricken households last year dropped by 708,000 than the year before.

From 1991 to 1995, the urban poverty line in China was an annual income of RMB [renminbi] 1086. These five years witnessed the most rapid growth in incomes of urban residents.

Ren Caifang, Leader of the Team, outlined the situation of urban poverty-stricken population as the low income and slow income growth rate which made them hard to maintain basic living standards; as well as less food consumption and undernourishment.

Mr. Ren said that good business cycles were important prerequisites for eliminating poverty. Overheated economy, inflation, unemployment and low income of workers would surely lead to an increase in poverty-stricken population.

By 2000, China's average urban income is estimated at RMB 7190, the average income of poverty-stricken families at RMB 2700; the urban poverty line is expected to be RMB 2270. Poverty-stricken population can be expected to drop sharply.

PRC: Guangdong Exports More High-Tech Products

OW0706100796 Beijing XINHUA in English 0806 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Guangzhou, June 7 (XINHUA) — Guangdong province, an economically booming area in South China, has increased its export of advanced technology products.

A survey showed that the province exported 24 billion yuan-worth of high-tech products last year, accounting for 35.7 percent of the output value of high-tech goods produced in 1995, and ranking it first in the country.

Guangdong has nine high-tech industrial zones, including six state ones, and 440 high-tech enterprises.

So far, the province has invested nine billion yuan in constructing nine high-tech zones, which have employed 11,000 engineers and technicians.

***PRC: Regional Economic Developments: Status, Problems, Solutions**

96CE0027&A Beijing JINGJI LILUN YU JINGJI GUANLI [ECONOMIC THEORY AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT] in Chinese 28 Mar 96 No 2, pp 75-80

[Article by Zhou Chuanlong (0719 0278 7893): "A Summary of the Economic Development Problems of Eastern, Central, and Western China"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The "CPC Central Committee Resolution on the Formulation of the Ninth Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development and Long-Range Goals for the Year 2010" passed by the Fifth Plenary Session of the 14th CPC Central Committee set forth the guiding principle of "persisting in coordinated regional economic development to gradually shrink the regional gap." Comrade Jiang Zemin has clearly noted "the need to conscientiously deal with and correctly handle the widening economic development gap of eastern with central and western China," as well as emphasizing the need to "make a key long-range persistent policy" of insisting on coordinated regional economic development to shrink the development gap. The regional economic development imbalance since reform and opening, with the steadily widening development gap of eastern with central and western China, has recently become one of the burning issues of widespread concern.

I. An Analysis of the Status Quo

China's faster marketization since the 1990's, with the ever stronger impact of market forces on regional economic development, the large flow of production essentials toward eastern China, and the faster economic development of eastern China, has been widening the gap between eastern and western China ever faster. While eastern China accounted for 53.8 percent of China's GNP in 1990, with that figure rising to 55.1 percent for 1991 and 58.3 percent for 1992, for average

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growth of 1.5 points a year, western China's share of China's GNP fell an average of 0.5 points a year from 1991 to 1993. (Footnote 1) (Wang Yiming [3769 0001 7686], "On Strategic Remedies for Speeding Up the Development of Western China," KEJI DAOBAO No 6, 1995.)

In China's national land area of 9.6026 million sq km, eastern China makes up 1.0284 million sq km, or 10.7 percent; central China accounting for 1.94 million sq km, or 20.2 percent; while western China covers 6.6342 million sq km, or the other 69.1 percent. Of China's 1.172-billion population, eastern China has 431 billion, or 36.7 percent, with central China having 446 billion, or 38.1 percent, while western China has 289 billion, or 25.2 percent. As to mineral and natural resources, western China's grassland resources make up over 94 percent, with its forest resources accounting for 51 percent, and its coal resources making up 50 percent, while its various nonferrous metal reserves account for 90 percent. Central China has a raw coal output of 662 billion tons, or 61.3 percent of output, with a crude oil output of 69.7 million tons, or 50.4 percent, and a hydropower output of 62.7 billion KW, 49.5 percent; eastern China is severely short of such resources, having only 3-8 percent of China's reserves. (Footnote 2) (Xu Fengxian [1776 6646 6343] and Wang Zhenzhong [3769 2182 0022], "Beware: The Ever Widening Regional Development Gap," ZHONGHUA GONGSHANG SHIBAO 16 January 1995.)

The data for 1993 shows that of western China's 10 provinces and autonomous regions, six are low-income ones with per capita GDP below 2,000 yuan, with four being low- to middle-income ones with 2,000-3,000 yuan, while the average income in all of these 10 provinces except for Xinjiang is below the national average. The lowest is Guizhou with a per capita GDP of 1,232 yuan, only 46.2 percent of the national average of 2,663 yuan, and 8.5 times less than Shanghai's highest per capita GDP of 11,700 yuan. It is of concern that in China's economic development process, the absolute per capita GDP gap among all regions is still widening, which is posing a stiff challenge to China's four modernizations and to all our nation getting wealthy together. (Footnote 3) (Chen Shineng [7115 1102 5174], "Endeavoring To Shrink the Development Gap Between Eastern and Western China," RENMIN RIBAO 24 August 1995.)

Western China is set off by its geographic location and [lack of] economic might, including less economically developed provinces and autonomous regions such as Gansu, Ningxia, Yunnan, Xinjiang, Qinghai, Guizhou, Tibet, and Inner Mongolia. The region's poverty is generally characterized by features such as poor natural conditions, a low level of productive forces, poor transportation, a lack of information, straitened government finances, low living standards, and backward culture, education, and science and technology [S&T]. (Footnote 4) (Zhang Haiwen [1728 3189 2429], "Rational Options for Adjusting the Industrial Structure of Western China's Township Enterprises," KAIFA YANJIU No 3, 1995.)

Some comrades hold: For quite some time to come, China's three major regions will experience imbalanced economic growth. The absolute gap between eastern and western China will not shrink, with the relative gap also widening to a certain extent in the short term, while both the absolute and relative gaps will have widened further by the year 2000. But by the year 2020, the relative gap will have shrunk somewhat, while the absolute gap will have continued to widen. (Footnote 5) (Zhang Luocheng [1728 5507 2052] and Wu Chucai [0702 2806 2624], "An Analysis of China's Regional Economic Gap, and Remedies," ZHONGGUO JINGJI WENTI No 5, 1985 [year as published])

In 1994, as to the economic order of these three major regions, except for the constant factor of land area, all other indexes were in a decreasing order of strongest in eastern to weakest in western China, showing the marked gap in overall economic might among the regions. A brief generalization shows the ratio of eastern to central to western China to be roughly 6:3:1. (Footnote 6) (Dai Leping [2071 2867 1627], "Thoughts on the Economic Development Problems of Eastern, Central, and Western China," JINGJI YANJIU CANKAO No 145, 1995.)

II. The Causes of the Development Gap Between Eastern and Western China

First, we need to look at the development gap from a historic and dialectical perspective. As eastern, central, and western China differ as to natural conditions and regional advantages, their economic development gap was formed far back in their history. As eastern China had favorable natural conditions, with rivers and a seacoast, it had a better economic base. Its agriculture developed faster, its electric power was also better developed, and its transportation and communications terms were better, making development of foreign trade easier, so that its modern industry took off sooner. Its literacy was higher, which gave it a fundamental economic development advantage. But in recent years, a number of factors have contributed further to the economic development gap of central and western with eastern China. On market economy terms, western and central China are in a naturally unequal standing in market competition with eastern China. While western China's advan-

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tage is mainly in its resources, resource development requires much capital, with slow turnover and results. Eastern China not only has better natural conditions, but also has developed mostly general manufacturing industries, which require less capital, with fast turnover and high profits. So the market orientation means that capital is bound to naturally flow to eastern China, promoting faster development there, while western development lags. Meanwhile, the state has pursued for some time certain different policies in eastern than in central and western China, devolving much jurisdiction in areas such as income tax rates for "the three kinds of foreign trade" enterprises, examination and approval authority for joint-venture projects, and foreign trade rights for import-export trade enterprises. And with the state having slanted its investment for some years mainly toward eastern China, our market economy development meant that more capital and talent has flowed toward eastern China in the pursuit of maximum profits. Even some capital from central and western China has also flowed east in hopes of higher returns. Consequently, this has further promoted the rapid economic development of eastern China, while slowing the development rate of central and western China. (Footnote 7) (Hu Jun [5170 6874], "Adhering to the Crucial Policy of Coordinated Regional Economic Development," JIEFANGJUN BAO 6 November 1995.)

Some comrades analyze the regional gap from a macroeconomic perspective, holding: 1. China's productive forces layout has always been concentrated in our eastern coastal zone. 2. According to the state's vertical regional division of industry, manufacturing industry is concentrated mainly in our coastal zone, while resource development industry is located mostly in western China. And while such a division of industry has evolved historically and has a certain rationale, in our traditional planned economy, basic product prices were severely out of line with their value, draining some of the efficiency from western economic development. 3. Eastern China's developed coastal provinces and zones have fully exploited the state's preferential policies, giving them the economic development advantage of having been the first to experiment with reform and opening. (Footnote 8) (Loc cit, Footnote 3.)

Other comrades feel that the gap among eastern, central, and western China is mainly as follows: 1. A GDP-rate gap. While the GDP growth-rate ratio for the three decades from the founding of the PRC to 1979 for eastern, central, and western China averaged 6.81:6.78:7.25, for the 15 years from 1980 through 1994 it was 19.88:16.20:15.78, or 4.1 points higher in eastern than western China. 2. A manufacturing industry development gap. Eastern, central, and western China have a marked gap in industrial output growth rates. In the decade from 1985 through 1994, this average growth rate ratio was 1.42:1.06:1, which rate gap resulted in a regional change in industrial output value, raising eastern China's from 1985's 46.3 percent to 68.8 percent by 1993, while western China's correspondingly dropped from 12.75 percent to 7.9 percent. 3. A township enterprise development gap. While eastern China's township enterprise development occurred on a sizeable scale, being mostly intensive development with higher economic efficiency, central and western China's township enterprise development started from a lower base, being mainly extensive development with lower economic efficiency. 4. A peasant income gap. In 1993, China's per capita peasant income was 921 yuan, including per capita net income of 1,380 yuan in eastern China, but only 786 yuan in central and 604 in western China. China still has 80 million peasants who do not have enough food and clothing, with 592 poverty stricken counties, over 90 percent of which are concentrated in our central and western regions. And of our 80 million poverty stricken population, about 65 million are peasants living in western China. But a 1993 evaluation by the State Statistics Bureau and the Ministry of Agriculture of the 100 most prosperous counties in China found that 91 were located in our eastern zone, while central China had nine and western China none. (Footnote 9) (Loc cit, Footnote 2)

Yet other comrades hold that our regional gap is mainly a rural one between eastern and western China. In recent years, coastal peasants have been growing ever more dependent on township enterprises for increased income, with 90 percent of the higher peasant income in some areas coming from township enterprises. But in many parts of central and western China, township enterprises have just started, being nonexistent in some places. That leaves peasants dependent mainly on the land for increased income. So the leadership at all levels in central and western China has now come to generally recognize that developing township enterprises is essential not only to raise peasant income and promote agricultural modernization, but also to shrink the east-west development gap. (Footnote 10) (Xu Baojian [6079 1405 0256], "China's East-West and Urban-Rural Gaps," JINGJI RIBAO 18 October 1995.)

Still others hold: Poor capital-input capability and low input-output efficiency is a key cause of our widening east-west gap. The three southwestern provinces of Yunnan, Guizhou, and Sichuan had a combined 1993 fixed asset investment equal only to that of Zhejiang Province, with their combined real use of foreign capital equal only to the foreign investment used by one large or medium city in our eastern coastal zone. As to

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output efficiency, the data show that as to output value per 100 yuan of original fixed asset value, eastern China produces roughly two to three times that of western China while, as to profits and taxes, eastern China earns and pays roughly two to four times that of western China. Such low input-output means that investors (including the state) are forced to use their limited capital first in eastern coastal zones, leaving already short western capital no recourse but to also flow through various channels to zones of higher capital efficiency. That leaves central and western China with a low capital input capability, with low input meaning naturally less output, for an ever widening gap. (Footnote 11) (Xu Lianjian [6079 5328 0256], et al, "A Sober Look at China's East-West Gap," JINGJI RIBAO 21 July 1995.)

III. The Major Existing Problems

Gansu Provincial Party Committee Secretary Yan Haiwong [7051 3189 2489] holds: 1. As to regional opening, the state has adjusted its policy on opening up to the outside world, having adjusted certain special preferential policies for special economic zones [SEZ's] and coastal zones from its early reform and opening period, standardizing some, adjusting others, and eliminating yet others. Meanwhile, certain preferential policies formerly drawn up by various provinces are now subordinate to centralized state policy. For instance, SEZ's used to collect 15 percent in income taxes, but now collect a centralized standard 33 percent income tax. The former preferential policy of tariff exemption provided by the state for goods imported with loans from foreign governments and international financial institutions, including transfer loans and Bank of China foreign exchange loans, was eliminated in 1996. So while these policy adjustments are nationally uniform, they undoubtedly make competition more difficult for we regions with weaker economic bases that started opening up later and are at a marked regional disadvantage. 2. As to opening fields, while the use of foreign capital did not used to be included in the state investment scale, starting in 1996, foreign investment of all specifications is subject to planned control, with the former beyond-plan internationally-financed leasing, Chinese-secured outside borrowing by Sino-foreign joint ventures, negotiable bonds, medium-term notes, and fundraising from overseas funds, all now included in state foreign investment plans and subject respectively to directive, scale-control, or guidance management. These changes have made it harder for provinces with investment demand that is high but of smaller scale to use foreign capital and Chinese Government and international financial institution loans. 3. As to the international climate, changes in the world economy have brought certain adverse factors to our opening. The tight monetary policy pursued by the Western nations is keeping international capital interest rates high, which is adverse to our use of foreign investment. In particular, certain Southeast Asian countries have instituted open policies, using preferential terms to attract capital and technology in competition with China. These changes in the international economy are posing stiffer challenges to us. 4. As to our own terms, our poor infrastructure terms remain a glaring problem limiting our opening to the outside world, with problems such as our backward air shipping and rail "bottlenecks" in particular still not having been essentially solved. In addition, our long transportation lines and high costs are all impacting our opening to the outside world. 5. As to our national macroeconomic order, the policy application of this strategic change in our coordinated regional economic development will take time. In particular, as state finances remain tight, it will be impossible for the state to invest much money in western China in the short term. In addition, as the state's macroeconomic policy is standardized, with macroeconomic regulation and control tightened, the unified tax and interest rates in particular will make it harder to devise fundraising strategies. (Footnote 12) (Yan Haiwong, "Problems Involved in Opening Up Wider to the Outside World," DIAOCHA YU YANJIU No 10, 1995.)

Some comrades hold: While certain coastal zones in eastern China are approaching the level of moderately developed nations as to per capita national income, most of central and western China remains poverty stricken, with our 80 million particularly poverty-stricken population still not having even enough food and clothing. Our further widening gap between rich and poor, as well as the unchecked population mobility of [migration from] many poor regions, is putting ever greater social and economic pressures on eastern China. So many severe social and economic problems are now showing up steadily. (Footnote 13) (Song Yi [1345 3015], "The Imperative Need To Shrink China's Regional Economic Development Gap," JINGJI YANJIU CANKAO No 118, 1995.)

Other comrades hold: Polarization is not socialism. As our now steadily widening development gap violates the principle of all getting wealthy together, it is incompatible with the essence of socialism. With the widening development gap among eastern, central, and western China having become one of our burning issues, central and western China are paying particular attention to what policy the center will adopt. And with the excessive and steadily growing income distribution gap already having a marked impact on the living standards of our various regions, party and government leaders in

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central and western China are subject to ever greater pressures, hoping that the Party Central Committee and State Council will pay particular attention to them, taking specific steps to ease the resulting discontent. (Footnote 14) (Loc cit, Footnote 6.)

And yet others hold: As western China's economic operations remain characterized mainly by a nonmarketized system of microeconomic production organization coexisting with marketized macroeconomic exchange with the outside, we can hardly expect western China to achieve the same results in converting to a market economy as eastern China has. As to western China's economic reform, its reform climate is qualitatively different from that of eastern China, which can be seen as: 1. Western China has a much different mission than does eastern China, having to make border stability, nationalities harmony, and stability and unity its essential system-reform prerequisites; 2. As its economic might differed from that of eastern China at the beginning of reform, in addition to its having far less developable market space than the interior [central China], while western China might be able to keep up with central China as to reform progress, it still will be unable to achieve the same results; 3. Its reform options differ. As eastern China's economic reforms essentially all started in fields with the briskest market factors [essentials] such as township enterprises, SEZ's, and the private economy, with state enterprises being upgraded last, there was a suitable transition period for government endurance of reform. But as western reform had no choice but to put the knife to the state economy right from the start, in light of its already particularly weak economic base, the western conversion to a market economy could hardly achieve an equal competitive standing. (Footnote 15) (Shi Wei [0670 3555], "China's Economic Reform: The Regional Gap and Developing Prospects," JINGJI YANJIU No 5, 1995.)

IV. Solutions for Speeding Up Central and Western Regional Development To Shrink the Gap

To speed up western China's resource development and economic growth, providing powerful support to long-term national economic development, the center needs to take forceful macroeconomic regulation and control steps, so that it can genuinely achieve its goal of shrinking our east-west regional gap. 1. The state needs to give prominence in its Ninth Five-Year Plan and medium- and long-range planning for the year 2010 to solving our ever widening east-west gap, setting forth clear goals and taking powerful policy steps. 2. We need to draw on the successful experience of certain countries (such as Brazil) in solving the economic development problems of underdeveloped regions, and that of China in pursuing a regional economic development strategy for our coastal zone. 3. We need to draw up specific preferential policies and related measures to increase support to western China's regional economic development. 4. We need to invest more in western infrastructure construction, with mostly state investment to build railways, main highways, communications facilities, and large hydropower stations and thermal power plants, as well as formulating detailed plans and programs setting projects, times, and investments. 5. We need to actively support western China in opening up faster to the outside world. Western China's resource advantage means that it should obviously take the economic development route of trading resources for capital. On the new terms of building a socialist market economy, an effective way for our developed eastern zone to support and help western China is to combine active state guidance with mutual supplementation of regional advantages, building east-west mutual aid on a foundation of reciprocity. So the many officials and the public in western China need to face up to the gap but not be willing to remain backward, rather freeing up their thinking and seizing opportunities to develop their advantages and accelerate their development. (Footnote 16) (Loc cit, Footnote 3.)

Some comrades hold: Shrinking the gap of eastern with central and western China must not come at the cost of slowing the economic development pace of eastern China, with the essential solution being rather to persist in a strategy of coordinated regional economic development. Western China needs to depend mainly on self-reliance, relying on its own might, developing and clarifying its regional advantages, and intensifying its water conservancy and farmland capital construction to sharply develop its agriculture. Over 60 percent of China's grasslands are in central and western China, which region also has very rich resources such as coal, nonferrous metals, silver, oil, and natural gas. Taking mineral resources for instance, Qinghai has discovered 119 kinds of minerals, with 48 of its verified mineral deposits ranking in the top 10 in China. So central and western China need to rely fully on these resource advantages, developing raw materials manufacturing industries faster, and striving to complete a number of large and medium projects such as salt and coal industrial chemicals and nonferrous metal manufacturing to change their state of simply exporting raw materials. As to the export of raw materials, we need to use regulation means such as taxation to reduce the profit loss due to the export of resource products, gradually strengthening western China's self-accumulation and development capability. In addition to their resource advantage, central and western China also have market and labor advantages. As central and western China have 89 percent of China's land area and

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64 percent of our population, which is a vast market for eastern China, they ought to exploit and develop this advantage well, treating it as a key economic growth point. And western and central China also need to fully exploit their existing industrial base, intensifying their infrastructure construction, introducing eastern capital, technology, and talent, and avoiding recklessness by choosing development priorities and superior industries suited to their regional conditions. (Footnote 17) (Loc cit, Footnote 6.)

Shaanxi Vice Governor Gu Zhibang [6328 3112 6721] holds: 1. We need to emphasize the work. Central policy measures to better develop central and western resource advantages and tilt the scale in the guidance of industry and technology need to be implemented in the detailed plans of all central departments, so that they will be carried out during the Ninth Five-Year Plan. 2. We need to have policy equality, gradually shifting the policy slant from our coastal zone to central and western China so that, in areas such as key project selection, examination and approval, fundraising and capital financing, business solicitation and investment attraction, export earnings, and high-tech industry development, central and western China will enjoy the same policies as our coastal zone, to create more and better opportunities for faster central and western development. 3. We need to have slanted development. As limiting factors such as capital shortage leave generally less opportunity to exploit resource development, the state needs to achieve faster development through an industrial slant when drawing up its economic policy and making investment plans. 4. We need to support poverty relief. In the Ninth Five-Year Plan, the state needs to increase its poverty-relief funding, while amassing capital to build a number of key national-level poverty-relief projects in poor regions, spurring their economic development so that they can cast off their poverty. 5. We need to rescue large and medium enterprises. With many enterprises now subject to ageing equipment, outdated products, heavy debt, and inadequate stamina, the state needs to act in line with these special conditions, drawing up special policies to give effective investment support for technological upgrading. (Footnote 18) (Gu Zhibang, "Western China Needs To Seize Development Opportunities," JINGJI RIBAO 4 December 1995.)

Some comrades hold that shrinking the gap will take 10 major countermeasures: 1. We need to create a good policy climate for central and western regional development; 2. We need to pursue a development strategy favorable to central and western development; 3. We need to set up in central and western China a number of economic nucleus zones for priority state support, as growth points for spurring regional economic development; 4. We need to do a better job of adjusting and upgrading our third-line enterprises, promoting an economic takeoff for central and western China; 5. We need to develop our central and western township enterprises and nonstate economy faster; 6. We need to invest more in support of central and western agricultural development; 7. We need to build better transportation and communications avenues, promoting the coordinated development and joint prosperity of central and western with eastern China; 8. We need to further intensify our poverty-relief to central and western China; 9. We need to make an east-west marriage, with counterpart support, reciprocity, and joint prosperity; 10. And we need to improve our ecology, for sustainable population, economic, social, resource, and ecological development. (Footnote 19) (Xu Guodi [1776 0948 1717] et al, "Basic Thoughts on China's Coordinated Regional Economic Development," GUOTU KAIFA YU ZHENGZHI No 4, 1994.)

The state needs to give more consideration to supporting the development of our undeveloped central and western regions, supporting minority nationality and poverty stricken regions in casting off poverty and solving economic development problems. To start with, we need to gradually find more effective solutions to these problems, taking mainly the following steps: 1. We need to gradually increase our financial support and construction investment to central and western China, giving priority to planning resource development and infrastructure construction projects in our central and western region; 2. We need to adjust our regional shift of manufacturing industry; 3. We need to rationalize resource product prices, giving central and western China a stronger self-development capability; 4. We need to speed up central and western reform and opening, guiding more foreign investment to our central and western region; 5. We need to intensify eastern economic alliance and cooperation with central and western China, encouraging investment in our central and western regions. (Footnote 20) ("A Synopsis of Suggestions on the Formulation of the Ninth Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development and Our Long-Range Goals for the Year 2010," GUANGMING RIBAO 6 October 1995.)

Some comrades note: A key condition for western economic development is converting perceptions. 1. We need to stand up, take our own route, and develop on our own, absolutely not holding out our hands for help in all cases. It is only development that can establish genuine "equality," with any "equality" without development bringing only stagnation and regression. With western China having a population of up to 100 million in urgent need of casting off poverty and over 300 million seeking just enough food and clothing, that would

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be essentially impossible to achieve by being dependent on "consideration" and "charity" alone, with the problem being ultimately solvable only through relying on self-development. All options and actions in western economic development must conform to the pertinent principles of economic development, being subject to the limitations of fundamental economic laws. 2. Changing the leadership policy, by speeding up talent training to let vigorous and creative outstanding leadership talent emerge, is a fundamental matter for accelerating western economic development, as well as the grounds for a new-age national leadership policy. 3. We need to provide reformers with protection and support. 4. We need to get over our inertia. Our western population needs to reach a perceptual understanding that China is a developing country with poor material and technical grounds, a still very low level of productive forces development, and a severe shortage of development capital. So as the government has heavy burdens, we must not place our expectations on the state in all cases. Western China needs to form a strong sense of national cohesion and self-confidence, intensifying its own construction and development. 5. We need to bring our advantages into full play, forming powerful economic development might. A. Our rich farming, livestock, and forestry resources, with not only a large volume but also many categories, make up China's largest livestock raising base and our largest producing area for livestock products such as fur [pelts]. B. Our rich energy and mineral resources, combined with a good regional distribution of energy resources, provide unique terms for the development and utilization of mineral resources. C. We have border-advantage resources, with 108 of China's 138 border counties being in western provinces and autonomous regions, and hundreds of border crossings being located mostly in western provinces and regions. It is thus obvious that while China's western provinces and regions do not have good terms for developing coastal trade, they do have border trade advantages. All of this shows that western China has unique advantages. As long as we combine and unite these factors with eastern production factors, forming an organically integrated and mutually supportive efficient operating whole, as well as pursuing more rational multipurpose development in western China, adjusting corresponding policies in all areas, we will be able to form powerful economic development might. (Footnote 21) (Xu Xianmei [1776 7639 2734], "Two Crucial Terms for the Development of Western China," MINZU JINGJI YU SHEHUI FAZHAN No 1, 1995.)

The state plans to slant its policy toward central and western China in eight areas. 1. We will develop local resource advantages and accelerate infrastructure construction. A. We will appropriately expand jurisdiction over the development and utilization of local resources, encouraging the attraction of foreign investment for joint resource development, and allowing the export of some resource products to repay foreign debt. B. As to certain fields and projects for advance testing, we will appropriately plan certain pilot programs for qualified areas. C. We will broaden regional jurisdiction over the examination and approval of foreign-invested projects, making it in principle the same as that in coastal development zones. 2. Foreign government loan projects and multilateral and bilateral aid projects, except for in special cases, will all be planned from now on for central and western China. Meanwhile, projects for which neighboring countries provide China with government commercial loans, based on need and possibility, will be planned as much as possible for central and western China. 3. In line with central and western foreign economic relations and trade development needs, we will quickly broaden their foreign operations authority in the examination and approval of large and medium enterprises and scientific research institutes. 4. As to foreign trade, for all quota commodities whose major producing area is central and western China, we will practice directed tender offerings, assigning most quotas to these regions; and we will do all possible to provide consideration [preferences, to central and western China] for other commodities. 5. As to plans for state foreign aid projects, we will observe for this region the principle of equal preferences. As to certain foreign aid units with less operating might and poor competitive capability, we will help them with personnel training and enterprise infrastructure construction. 6. We will bring the S&T advantages of central and western China into full play, particularly those of large and medium state enterprises, slanting our policies toward this region in the areas of importing technology, promoting trade-technology combinations, and supporting the technological upgrading of ageing enterprises. 7. We will give attention and support to building better foreign trade ranks in western China, particularly in border and minority nationality areas. 8. And we will regularly organize central and western China to exchange timely information service with coastal zones. (Footnote 22) ("State Plans To Slant Policies Toward Central and Western China in Eight Areas," ZHENGCE TIANDI No 11, 1995.)

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East Region

PRC: Anhui Leaders Review Fuyang's Crime Crackdown Results

OW0606232296 Hefei ANHUI RIBAO in Chinese 21 May 96 p 1

[By unattributed staff reporter and correspondent: "While Listening to Report on Progress in Crime Crackdown in Fuyang, Lu Rongjing, Meng Fulin Maintain Popular Contentment Is Criterion for Evaluating Results of Crime Crackdown"]

[FBIS Translated Text] While inspecting work of Fuyang City on 19 May, Lu Rongjing, secretary of the provincial party committee; Meng Fulin, chairman of the provincial people's congress standing committee; Ji Jiahong, standing committee member and secretary general of the provincial party committee; and Xi Longnian, vice chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Anhui provincial committee; visited public security cadres and policemen fighting on the front line of crime crackdown. They were in the company of director Chen Ruiding of the provincial public security department and Fuyang City's senior officials. They discussed with comrades on the judicial, procuratorial, and public security front ways for deepening the fight against crimes at the crucial moment of the crackdown.

After listening to a briefing on the latest situation in clamping down on crimes in Fuyang City, Lu Rongjing said: In line with the central authorities' unified arrangements, a campaign to crack down on crimes has been launched throughout Anhui in a planned, organized way, and with clear targets. Under the direct leadership of party committees and governments at all levels and with the vigorous support and coordination of the broad masses of people, judicial, procuratorial, and public security departments have worked out meticulous plans and adopted effective measures to achieve initial successes in fighting crimes, thereby clamping down and deterring criminals to the delight of the masses.

Lu Rongjing said: The remarkable results achieved in the recent period of the crackdown should be attributed mainly to leaders at all levels in Anhui who have attached great importance and personally attended to the crackdown. Also, it should be attributed to the fully mobilized masses who have taken the initiative to report crimes; to propaganda departments that have closely coordinated with the crackdown by creating a powerful media offensive against crimes. Finally, it should be attributed to judicial, procuratorial, and public security departments that have worked concertedly and directed the campaign effectively. However, we must realize that these achievements only mark the beginning of the campaign; and now is the crucial time for the crackdown. We must advance on the crest of the achievements to push the campaign in depth and in breadth; and must not relax efforts until complete victory is won.

Lu Rongjing emphasized: First, leaders at all levels should maintain a sober mind, further enhance their understanding in the light of political integrity, and deem the crackdown as a concrete action of effective, solid service to the masses. Principal responsible comrades at all levels should personally take charge of the campaign. Second, the masses' contentment should be regarded as the criterion for evaluating results of the crackdown. We should assess not only the number of criminal cases cracked but, more importantly, whether public order has been improved. Crimes must be cracked down on whenever and wherever they are uncovered. We must foster the mentality of long-term struggle and fight crimes steadfastly and persistently to ensure safety in each locality. Third, we should extensively mobilize and closely rely on the masses in cracking down on crimes. As the masses are the source of our strength, we should further mobilize the masses to deprive criminals of places to hide. Meanwhile, we should continue to implement responsibility system in comprehensive management of public security, mobilizing the masses to fight, to prevent, and to reduce crimes. Fourth, we should do things according to the law and, on the basis of facts, mete out swift and harsh punishments against a number of heinous criminals and criminal gangs with the nature of underworld organizations, in order to gain momentum and achieve concrete results in the campaign. Fifth, in the course of the campaign, we should improve the quality of rank-and-file judicial, procuratorial, and public security personnel by supervising them strictly and continuously building up up their fighting capacity, thereby performing more meritorious services for the people.

In his speech, Meng Fulin also spoke highly of the achievements by public security cadres and policemen in Fuyang City and other parts of Anhui in the course of the campaign, and urged them to redouble efforts to win still greater achievements. He called on people's congresses at all levels to support and show concern for the crackdown to ensure the campaign's smooth development in throughout the province.

PRC: Fujian Bans Illegal Sex Identification of Unborn Babies

OW0606143396 Beijing XINHUA in English 1330 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Fuzhou, June 6 (XINHUA) — China's Fujian Provincial People's Congress has

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adopted a new law which bans the identifying of the sex of unborn babies in the province.

The law, the first local regulation of its kind in China, is aimed at keeping the balance in population structure, and maintaining a stable society.

The regulations forbid the use of ultrasonic testing, chromosome detection and other medical means to illegally identify the sex of fetuses.

Sex identification can only be conducted with the approval of medical and public health institutions above city-level for examining hereditary diseases, according to the regulations.

The law stipulates that the status or licenses of doctors who conduct illegal sex identification more than twice will be cancelled.

Pregnant women who illegally abort a fetus after going through sex identification tests, will not be allowed to give birth to their first baby for five years, and they will not to be permitted to have another child, the law says.

According to experts, the sex ratio of the newly-born population in Fujian Province has become imbalanced since 1980s. The normal sex ratio of baby girls and baby boys should be 100:103 (to 107).

Statistics from the fourth nationwide census in 1990 indicated that the ratio of baby girls and baby boys in Fujian Province was 100:118.7.

And statistics produced by the Fujian Provincial Family Planning Committee in 1995 showed that the ratio of baby girls and baby boys was 100:115.4.

The two numbers are apparently higher than normal levels, with analysts attributing the reason to the failure of reporting baby girls during the national census, and illegal abortions after identification of gender.

PRC: Fujian Governor Calls on People To Attain Good Living Standard

OW0606013096 Fuzhou FUJIAN RIBAO in Chinese 22 May 96 p 1

[Report by staff reporter Chen Shiwang (7115 00132489): "Provincial Telephone Meeting Held To Mobilize People To Expedite the Process of Attaining Relatively Comfortable Living Standard in Rural Areas — Chen Mingyi Make Mobilization Report"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The province's rural areas have entered a crucial period in attaining a relatively comfortable living standard. The provincial party committee and the provincial government held a telephone meeting on 21 May to mobilize people to "storm heavily fortified positions" to attain a relatively comfortable living standard in rural areas. The meeting called for further mobilizing people, making better plans, and further unifying people's thinking for this purpose. It also call on people to enhance their understanding, to sum up experiences, and to have a clear comprehension of their responsibility. It called for mobilizing all social forces to resolutely storm heavily fortified positions and to expedite the process of attaining a relatively comfortable living standing in a down-to-earth manner.

Governor Chen Mingyi made a mobilization report, and Deputy Secretary Xi Jinping of the provincial party committee chaired the telephone meeting. Those attending the telephone meeting included Zhao Xuemin, Chen Yingguan, Huang Ruilin, Lin Kaiqin, Huang Wenlin, and Tong Wanheng, provincial leaders; leaders of departments directly under the provincial authority; leaders of various prefectures, cities, and counties; leaders of offices in charge of work of attaining a relatively comfortable living standard; and leaders of towns and townships. [passage omitted]

Chen Mingyi said: Since the provincial party committee and the provincial government made the policy decision to basically attain a relatively comfortable living standard three years ahead of schedule, departments at various levels have conscientiously been implementing the decision; they have vigorously taken action, adopted specific measures, and redoubled their efforts to expedite the process of attaining a relatively comfortable living standard. According to an analysis of monitored data, by the end of 1995, the rural areas of the province made a comprehensive score of 81.2 points in the process of attaining a relatively comfortable living standard; 18 counties (cities and prefectures) made a score of more than 90 points in this regard. Thus, a large number of towns, townships, villages, and households that have attained a relatively comfortable living standard have emerged. While fully affirming these achievements, we should also soberly note that the task of attaining a relatively comfortable living standard throughout the province remains arduous, and there are still many problems and difficulties. 1. There are disparities between cities, counties, townships, and villages; 2. There are considerable disparities as far as some indexes, such as Engel's coefficient and the net incomes of village collective economies, are concerned; 3. In some localities, attaining a relatively comfortable living standard still remains in the stage of issuing general calls, and no substantial measures have been taken yet; in some other localities, leaders have yet to make ideological preparations, nor have the masses been fully mobilized; in some individual places, there is fear of difficulty or unrealistic optimism. These difficulties and

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problems merit our close attention. We must take effective measures to solve them. [passage omitted]

Chen Mingyi called on all localities in the province to go all out to expedite the process of attaining a relatively comfortable living standard. This standard should be basically attained this year in 65 percent of the administrative villages of Ningde and Longyan, 70 percent of the administrative villages of Putian, Nanping, and Saming, and 75 percent of the administrative villages of Fuzhou, Xiamen, Quanzhou, and Zhangzhou; and the problems of food and clothing should be solved for 400,000 people. The rural areas of the province should basically attain a relatively comfortable living standard next year. [passages omitted]

Party committees and governments at various levels should assume overall responsibility in this regard. Principal leaders should personally take a hand in the work, and leaders in charge of this work should devote their main energies to it. Relevant departments at various levels should establish a work responsibility system level by level. In checking and accepting the work of attaining a relatively comfortable living standard in rural areas, we must strictly uphold the set standards and quality. Now we must work hard to basically attain a relatively comfortable living standard throughout the province in 1997 and to attain a relatively comfortable living standard in an all-round way across the province in 2000.

Speakers at the meeting included Jing Fusheng, secretary of the Ningde Prefectural Party Committee; Qiu Guangzhong, secretary of the Quanzhou City Party Committee; and Zhang Maodong, deputy director of the provincial posts and telecommunications administration.

PRC: Fujian To Speed Up Development of Ocean Industries

OW0706053596 Beijing XINHUA in English 0355 GMT 7 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Fuzhou, June 7 (XINHUA) — Southeast China's Fujian Province will accelerate the development of its oceanic industry, making itself a leading oceanic province.

In an inevitable development trend, the coastal province has acquired additional resources and space from the ocean, and now must set goals for the development of its oceanic economy, said Jia Qinglin, a leading official of the province.

With a coastline of more than 3,300 km, the province has five fishing grounds and more than 3,000 species of marine organisms. The province has 125 ports along its coast, and is rich in minerals and tidal energy resources. Bountiful oil reserves are found in the western part of the Taiwan Strait, according to a preliminary survey. But with its low- level technical abilities and small-scale industries, the province's oceanic industry is still in an early stage of development.

Jia said there will be two development phases of the province's oceanic industry: establishing an industry system consisting of marine aquatic production, maritime transportation, offshore tourism, and offshore mining industry, and listing appreciable results in these areas by the year 2,000. The province's output value from the oceanic industry will account for 15 percent of the provincial gross national product.

The second phase will center on encouraging the rapid development of the oceanic industry through advanced technology, so that its output value will account for 30 percent of the provincial gross national product. A series of port cities, industrial belts, tourist zones, and foreign trade zones will be designated along the coastal regions.

Jia attached great importance to the present development of five areas: marine aquatic production, maritime transportation, offshore tourism, offshore mining industry, and the utilization of offshore islands.

PRC: Great Potential in Fujian's Rural Market Noted

OW0606142496 Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in English 1232 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] June 6 (CNS) — The purchasing power of farmers in Fujian, who accounts for 81.3 per cent of the Province's total population, has been quickly rising and the potential in the Province's rural market can hardly be underrated, a Provincial Statistical Bureau survey reveals. It is also disclosed that thanks to the bountiful harvests last year, farmers' income increased greatly resulting in their growing purchasing power. The balance of farmers' deposits has risen by RMB [renminbi] 2.1 billion to top RMB 11.63 billion by the end of 1995.

The survey also says that the rural people are now more willing to spend money on clothing and household goods. As far as durable goods are concerned, there were 51 colour television sets, 17 washing machines and nine refrigerators in every 100 rural households at the end of last year. These figures are far behind the standard of urban people indicating the great potential in the consumption of farmers.

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*PRC: Fujian Deputy Secretary on Opening Up, Development

96CM0306A Beijing RENMIN LUNTAN [PEOPLE'S FORUM] in Chinese 8 Mar 96 No 3, p 19

[Article by Xi Jinping (5045 6602 1627), Fujian deputy party secretary and Fuzhou party secretary: "General Thoughts on the Opening Up and Development of Southeastern Fujian"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Opening up and developing eastern Fujian faster is a key mission set forth by the 14th CPC Congress, as well as a crucial strategic decision for Fujian's economic takeoff.

The city of Fuzhou is Fujian Province's political, economic, and cultural center and crucial transportation hub. Fuzhou's key indicators such as GNP and revenue account for roughly one-fourth of Fujian's and one-third of southeastern Fujian's, with its research might making up over one-half of Fujian's. So conscientiously studying and acting in the spirit of the 14th CPC Congress and the Fifth Plenary Session of the 14th CPC Central Committee, by seizing the opportunity to speed up Fuzhou's reform, opening, and economic construction, will be of crucial importance in promoting the opening up and development of southeastern Fujian to build southeastern Fujian by the end of the century into a prosperous zone on the east coast of the Taiwan Strait.

We need to accelerate our construction of the economic sphere at the mouth of the Min Jiang, actively developing it into a modern economic growth point to further reinforce our overall economic might. We need to bring into full play Fuzhou's status and role as the central city in southeastern Fujian, forming an all-dimensional and multipurpose order of opening up to the outside world that is led by the Mawei Development Zone, relies on the old city proper, and has our coastal counties (cities) as its north-south wings, our mountainous counties as its rear guard, and the Min Jiang valley and northeastern Fujian as its hinterland. And we need to turn the economic sphere at the mouth of the Min Jiang into a modern economic zone in southeastern Fujian with full functions, abundant vitality, and real multipurpose might.

Aimed at building a socialist market economy, we need to push forward actively with all reforms. We need to adhere to the priority of intensified state enterprise reform, actively exploring effective means for enterprises to convert their operating forces and build up their establishments, to gradually set up a modern business system characterized essentially by "distinct property rights, with clear rights and duties, business management separate from government administration, and scientific management." We need to better optimize our industrial structure, vigorously cultivating key industries, emphasizing the merger and upgrading of old enterprises, actively and stably developing the joint stock system, accelerating our pace of corporate reform, and vigorously cultivating group enterprises [consortiums], while steadily developing and enlarging our public economy. Meanwhile, we need to earnestly stress all related reforms, striving to form the basic framework for a socialist market economy in three years.

We need to open up wider to the outside world, pushing our foreign trade and economic relations to new heights. We need to conscientiously launch all types of business solicitation campaigns, stressing overseas business solicitation and related friendship activity. We need to intensify the policy guidance and management of our foreign investment orientation, steadily raising the quality and level of our business solicitation and investment attraction so we can use foreign capital more efficiently. We need to build export commodity bases faster, further increasing our exports, to reinforce our export earning might. We need to endeavor to improve our export goods mix, sharply improving its quality and grade. And we need to intensify our domestic links and cooperation, steadily developing cooperative ties among southeastern Fujian, the northeastern Fujian economic cooperation zone, and friendly inland cities, to speed up the development of lateral economic associations among regions.

We need to steadily expand two-way exchange between Fuzhou and Taiwan, striving to make new breakthroughs in cross-strait economic cooperation. We need to seize the historic opportunity, conscientiously acting in the spirit of General Secretary Jiang Zemin's key speeches on the Taiwan issue, by steadily expanding two-way exchange and cooperation between Fuzhou and Taiwan in science and technology, culture, education, sports, and economic and trade relations. We need to better attract Taiwanese investment to Fuzhou from large consortiums and enterprises, emphasizing crucial Taiwan-invested projects, running Taiwan-invested enterprises well, and setting up in Fuzhou manufacturing bases for Taiwanese-invested goods such as electronics, textiles, petrochemicals, and cars. We need to run Fuzhou's Taiwan Firm Investment Zone well, gradually expanding its investment and construction scale and policy radiation scope, to build it into a multipurpose testing ground for Fuzhou-Taiwan economic relations and trade cooperation. We need to actively attract Taiwan firms to invest in operations in our duty-free zone, to bring into full play the "leading" role of our duty-free zone in Fuzhou-Taiwan economic

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relations and trade cooperation. And we need to fully exploit Fuzhou's regional advantage and existing infrastructure terms, conscientiously promoting all preparations for cross-strait "three exchanges" [of mail, air and shipping services, and through trade], in an attempt to turn Fuzhou as quickly as possible into direct shipping port for cross-strait "three exchanges."

We need to speed up our infrastructure construction, further improving our living and working conditions. In line with the principle of overall planning, with a rational layout, infrastructure leading the way, and the emphasis on efficiency, we need to accelerate our construction of "leading project" airports, ports, railways, and roads, sharply developing overseas communications. We need to emphasize the construction of municipal works such as water, power, and gas supplies and streets, as well as environmental protection facilities, converting our infrastructure in five years from a limitation to an adaptation. And we need to act strictly in line with overall urban planning, speeding up our building of a modern urban system centered on the city proper, backed by market towns, and combining old city upgrading with new zone development, in an attempt to turn Fuzhou by the end of the century into an urban system and sphere with strong cohesion and service functions, and then to gradually advance toward our goal of becoming a modern international city.

PRC: Commentary on 'Severe Crackdown' on Crime in Jiangxi

OW0706000496 Nanchang JIANGXI RIBAO in Chinese 18 May 96 p 1

[Article by staff commentator: "Making More Efforts To Deepen the 'Severe Crackdown' Struggle"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The people are pleased with the reported results achieved by Jiangxi Province in carrying out the "severe crackdown" struggle, which began in mid-April. However, this is only an initial success. More efforts should be made to achieve a greater result of the arduous work. It is necessary for us to seize the current favorable opportunity and make more active efforts to deepen the struggle.

The key to deepening the "severe crackdown" struggle lies with the leaders who are responsible for the task. Not long ago, party committees and governments at all levels attached great importance to the struggle, with major leading comrades personally involved in making plans and directing the work at the front line. They achieved a great success in organizing and implementing the work. With the struggle deepening, a stronger leadership is needed. It is necessary for leading comrades of party and government organs at all levels to treat the "severe crackdown" struggle as an important agenda. They should go down to the grass-roots units, strengthen their guidance, and solve practical issues that crop up during the course of the campaign. This is an important yardstick for examining whether leading cadres can understand what the people want as well as whether they are concerned about the people's interests. Leading party and government groups of all organs, institutes, enterprises, villages, townships, and residential districts should enhance their awareness of the importance of the drive, strengthen their leadership, and conscientiously carry out the work of consolidating public security in their own units and the "severe crackdown" struggle in their own jurisdictions. They should work hard to improve social order. They should be responsible for ensuring peace and political stability.

Adhering to the principle of combining the efforts of both special units and the masses as well as relying on the people to maintain public security has been a fine tradition of the Party's political and legal work. The deepening of the "severe crackdown" struggle depends, to a great degree, on the scope and intensity of the efforts the people have made. We should continue to use various propaganda tools and adopt effective measures to extensively mobilize the people. We should make great efforts to carry out the ideological and educational work among the people, including the relatives of criminal elements. We should vigorously advocate the spirit of being ready to take up the cudgels for a just cause and placing righteousness above loyalty to one's family. We should encourage people to inform against criminal elements. We should stimulate and protect people's enthusiasm in joining the mass campaign against criminal elements. Grass-roots units such as neighborhood committees and village committees as well as people's self-rule organs such as public security committees and mediation committees should be mobilized to cooperate with political and legal departments in cracking down on crimes. We should organize the people to launch a mass prevention and mass treatment drive to prevent and reduce crimes.

One important aspect of deepening the "severe crackdown" struggle lies in increasing practical results by making more efforts to root out crimes. During the course of the campaign, we should try to discover major cases, search for escaped criminals, and smash criminal groups. We should continue to organize crack police forces to discover more major cases that have great consequences for society, arrest escaped criminals for trial, and blow out criminal groups, especially those of an underworld nature. We should try our best to eliminate hidden dangers that might undermine the public security. Political and legal departments at all levels should fur-

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ther unify their thinking on law enforcement, maintain close cooperation in operation, speed up the pace in handling cases, enhance law enforcement level, and punish criminal elements promptly and severely in accordance with law. Major efforts should be made to improve the public security in areas, parts, and routes where the cases of public concern have aroused strong indignation in society. Meanwhile, the drive should be followed by other supplementary measures so as to improve pubic security condition as soon as possible. Whether the struggle has been carried out extensively can be determined mainly by the number of major cases discovered, escaped criminals arrested, criminal groups threatening social order destroyed; whether major criminal elements have been punished promptly and severely in accordance with law, outstanding public security problems resolved, and places with poor public security made safer. The most important deciding factor is whether the people feel safer and there is a stable environment for development. We have made a good start in our drive and should continue our efforts to deepen the struggle.

PRC: Jiangxi Article Calls For 'Total War' Against Crime

OW0606062096 Nanchang JIANGXI RIBAO in Chinese 25 Apr 96 p 1

[Commentator article: "Fighting a Total War To Safeguard Public Order"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The overall law-and-order situation in our province has been fairly stable in recent years. However, we are now experiencing growing law-and-order problems, glaring criminal activities, and a growing number of major and exceptionally serious criminal cases. Some criminal gangs and evil gangster forces are committing all sorts of crimes and going on a rampage in local communities. Social ills with adverse effects, such as the peddling of pornography, gambling, and drug trafficking, remain despite repeated attempts to ban them. These problems have seriously threatened people's lives and property, disrupted public order, and hindered the progress of socialist material and spiritual civilization. This has drawn strong reaction from the people. Ensuring safety in local areas, creating an orderly environment, and ensuring smooth progress in reform, opening up, and economic construction are not only urgently needed for social development, but they also represent the common aspiration and the strong desire of the people. Our top priority at the moment is to mobilize all party members and all people to wage a large-scale, total war to safeguard public order in accordance with the party Central Committee's unified plans, and following the principle of meting out stiff and swift punishment according to law.

To successfully wage a total war to safeguard public order, we must improve our understanding of the importance and necessity of waging a "Strike Hard" struggle. Swiftly organizing and waging a nationwide "Strike Hard" struggle is a major policy decision adopted by the party Central Committee to safeguard public order and maintain social stability. This policy decision is extremely correct and essential; it is also entirely consistent with our province's actual situation. We should fully understand that waging this "Strike Hard" struggle is urgently needed to change the current grim law-and-order situation; ensure smooth progress in reform and development; and foster close flesh-and-blood ties between the party and government on the one hand and the people on the other. Past experience and the current situation amply show that law-and-order problems are a major political issue that has a bearing on the overall situation of reform, development, and stability; on whether or not we can gain popular support; and on the consolidation of the party's ruling status and people's political power. Leading central comrades have repeatedly stressed the need to pay attention to politics. Safeguarding public order and social and political stability is an important way to pay attention to politics. Therefore, we must take a political view of law-and-order problems; understand the importance, necessity, and urgency of waging a "Strike Hard" struggle from a political viewpoint, and earnestly plan and meticulously organize this struggle with a strong sense of political responsibility so that the desired goals of the struggle will be achieved.

To successfully wage a total war to safeguard public order, we must resolutely implement the principle of meting out stiff and swift punishment in accordance with the law. To improve public order, we must mete out severe punishment. We must really be serious in the "Strike Hard" struggle. Given this year's grim law-and-order situation, we must mete out stiff and swift punishment in accordance with the law, launch an intensive drive to crack down on crime, and resolutely deflate criminals' arrogance. Public security and judicial departments should perform their functions to the fullest and implement the principle of meting out stiff and swift punishment in accordance with the law in all stages of the "Strike Hard" struggle. We must crack down hard on, and severely punish in accordance with the law, serious criminals — especially murderers, robbers, criminals who set off explosives, rapists, highway and railway bandits, core members of underworld criminal gangs, and evil gangster forces — as well as criminals involved in grand larceny. We must arrest those who should be arrested, hand down harsh sentences against those who deserve to be punished, and resolutely execute those who should be executed. We should reso-

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lutely correct and prevent the phenomena of disobeying the law, not enforcing the law strictly, and not investigating law violations. We should by no means mete out light punishment for serious crimes, or punishment that is less severe than it should be. More importantly, we cannot replace criminal punishment with ordinary punishment. Public security and judicial organs should work closely with each other to expedite the process of handling cases so that cases will be tried and closed quickly.

To successfully wage a total war to safeguard public order, we must improve all facets of public order, implement the principles of "simultaneously fighting and preventing crime and tackling both the symptoms and root causes of problems with emphasis on the latter," and take various measures to improve all facets of public order while carrying out the key tasks of the "Strike Hard" struggle. We should improve public order in key areas — county and city areas where criminal cases have risen substantially and where the law-and-order situation is rather bad. We should take advantage of the opportune moment afforded by the intensive crackdown to solve glaring law-and-order problems and improve the poor law-and-order situation through the adoption of comprehensive improvement measures. We should devote great efforts to solving law-and-order problems that have elicited strong reaction from the public until we achieve remarkable results. We should implement measures for improving all facets of public order at the grass-roots level and among the people so as to lay a solid foundation for long-term social stability.

As the current "Strike Hard" struggle goes on, time is pressing and the task is heavy. Whether or not we take this struggle seriously and carry it out effectively reflects whether or not we have a firm mass viewpoint and pay attention to politics. To ensure success in this struggle, we must conscientiously improve our leadership. Primary party and government leaders should personally participate in the struggle. Moreover, they should extensively mobilize the people and arouse the enthusiasm and initiative of all quarters to join in the struggle so as to foster a social atmosphere in which everyone is concerned about the law-and-order situation, and in which people jointly solve law-and-order problems and go all-out to safeguard public order.

PRC: Shanghai Receives Water From Chang Jiang River

OW0506154696 Beijing XINHUA in English 1514 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Shanghai, June 5 (XINHUA) — A major water diversion project to divert water from the Chang Jiang River to quench thirsty Shanghai was completed today.

Around 1.3 million tons of water will be pumped daily into China's largest city, accounting for one fifth of the city's total water supplies.

Water from the Huangpu River has been a major water source in Shanghai. But with the rapid economic progress, Shanghai has been hit by severe water shortages and low quality water.

To quench the thirst of city dwellers, the city authorities decided to build the project to divert water from the Chang Jiang River, as the second major water source for Shanghai.

The entire water diversion project fells into two phases, with the first one started in 1992 and the second started in 1994. The entire project has been completed in 19 months.

PRC: Commentary Hails Shanghai Efforts in Crime Crackdown

OW0606235496 Shanghai WEN HUI BAO in Chinese 24 May 96 p 1

["Short Commentary: Efforts To Punish the Evil and Protect the People Win the People's Admiration"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The struggle of cracking down on crimes is being carried out extensively. In the last two days, the entire Shanghai police force went into action in concerted efforts to strike at crimes. Shanghai's municipal party committee, government, district, and county leaders personally went to the frontline to direct the task. In addition, the broad masses actively cooperated and joined the operation to form a powerful offensive to corner and eliminate the criminals.

The news of success passed on from the frontline is encouraging: major and repulsive cases were busted; criminal gangs and evil forces that seriously endangered the society were eliminated; criminal elements guilty of the most heinous crimes were arrested; some criminal elements at large were persuaded by the government policy and surrendered one after another to the police; some regions and road sections with public order problems were straightened. Shanghai has achieved outstanding, practical, and reputable results in cracking down severely on crimes. The operation shocked the criminals, encouraged the people, and further consolidated and developed Shanghai's good social order as a large international city, creating a good social environment for reform, opening up, and economic development.

The people's common desire is to eliminate evil and protect good people. To crack down hard on crimes,

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apart from fully exploiting the duties of judicial and public security organs, it is also necessary to mobilize the broad masses and arouse their enthusiasm. Further, we must commend and publicize advanced deeds and noble character of people who have acted bravely. We must carry forward their dauntless and heroic spirit in fighting all kinds of criminal elements. We must suppress the evil with righteousness to create a situation whereby the criminals will be crushed like rats by everyone.

Following the extended crackdown on crimes, we must further strengthen our efforts and widen our crime preventive measures. While severely striking at serious criminal activities, we must continue to evaluate and promote experiences in crime crackdown as well as actively implement comprehensive control of public order. We must possess great political responsibility and truly do a good job in several fundamental tasks, including bringing about social order and managing properly residents from other localities.

There is no end to the crime crackdown struggle. We must, under the correct leadership of the municipal party committee and government, keep a high fighting spirit, unite the police and people, put in vigorous efforts, and follow up our victories with hot pursuit to snatch great victories in the struggle to crackdown on crimes.

PRC: Zhejiang To Become Electric Power Base on Chang Jiang Delta

OW0606120996 Beijing XINHUA in English 1202 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 6 (XINHUA) — East China's Zhejiang Province aims to become an electrical power base on the Chang Jiang River Delta by the beginning of the 21st century.

Officials from the provincial electrical power bureau revealed their plans during the opening ceremony for the Jiaxing Power Plant held in Jiaxing city in the province.

To achieve their goal, the province plans to put large- and medium-sized units with a total of 7.96 million kw of installed capacity into operation during the 1996-2000 period, and to extend 950 km of 500 kv of transmission lines and 2,850 km of 220 kv lines.

Giving priority to fossil-fueled power stations, the province also will put more effort into building hydraulic and nuclear power plants during the coming years.

It plans to build large coastal fossil-fueled power stations, develop conventional hydraulic power stations, act quickly to build a group of gas and steam combined-cycle power plants, and properly develop pumping storage power plants.

It is expected that two 330,000 kw units in Taizhou Power Plant will become operational, one in this year and one in 1997.

Three 600,000 kw units in Beilun Power Plant, which started the second phase of its expansion in 1995, also are expected to be built during the 1996-2000 period.

Four 600,000 kw units in Jiaxing Power Plant, two 300,000 kw units in Wenzhou Power Plant, and two 300,000 kw units in Changxing Power Plant should be completed by the year 2000.

By the end of 1995, the province had a total of more than 10 million kw of installed capacity, generating 40.7 billion kwh of electricity annually.

The province is expected to have a modern grid system by the turn of the century, that mainly will be equipped with 500 kv of transmission lines and 300,000-plus kw units.

During recent years, the province has cooperated with dozens of countries and regions, including the United States, Britain, Japan, France, Canada, Singapore and the Republic of Kazakhstan, in the fields of technology, trade and personnel training in the power industry.

The period between 1991-1995 saw the province use more than 400 million US dollars for developing the local power industry.

The Beilun, Zhenhai, Taizhou, Jiaxing, Wenzhou, Changxing and other fossil-fueled power plants are mainly located in the province's eastern coastal area, while the Xinanjiang, Fuchunjiang, Wuxijiang and Jinshuitan hydraulic power plants are situated in the western and southern parts of the province.

PRC: Zhejiang Enacting Health Program for Rural Residents

OW0606121096 Beijing XINHUA in English 1146 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hangzhou, June 6 (XINHUA) — It is hoped that the 70 million rural residents of east China's Zhejiang Province will be provided with health care by the year 2000.

Current achievements in the province's rural healthcare plan inspire optimism for this goal, which is part of the plan of the Chinese government for its rural population of 900 million.

Areas that measure the development of healthcare work include incidence of infectious diseases, and death rates

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of infants and women in labor. The province's statistics in these areas have met or almost reached the national standards for the end-of-the-century target.

Major endemic diseases, such as iodine deficiency and snail fever, and infectious diseases, including measles and polio, have been effectively controlled.

About half the counties in Zhejiang have passed an examination for rural healthcare work, conducted early this year by the Ministry of Public Health.

Rapid growth of the local economy has led to a prosperous life for many Zhejiang farmers in recent years, but healthcare conditions in several areas still need improvement.

Since 1991, several physicians have been sent to towns and villages to educate rural residents about health care.

The doctors also urged locals to improve toilet facilities and sanitary conditions in order to reduce environmental pollution. Many rural households have used flush toilets at home.

In addition, more than 70 percent of farmers have used clean tap water, the highest rate in the country.

A rural medical care network has been established throughout the province, providing a convenient service for locals in need of treatment.

More than 500 county-level hospitals and other kinds of healthcare centers have been formed, as well as 3,000 township hospitals and 22,300 village clinics, which employ 73,000 medical personnel.

Zhejiang also has established a cooperative medical care system, which was jointly funded by government allocations and individual investment.

So far, 6.8 million rural residents involved in this system are receiving better medical care.

Central-South Region

PRC: Guangdong Governor on Maintaining Social Order, Stability

OW0606020296 Guangzhou NANFANG RIBAO in Chinese 20 Apr 96 p 1

[By reporter Chen Mingguang (7115 2494 0342)]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday afternoon, the provincial party committee and the provincial government called a telephone conference to arouse the people throughout the province into swift action to go all out to maintain social order and stability and to create a fine social environment for economic development. Deputy Provincial Party Secretary and Governor Lu Ruihua made a mobilization speech at the meeting.

Lu Ruihua said: Maintaining social order and stability and dealing a telling blow to serious criminal activities is needed for sustained and steady economic development in Guangdong, and it is also a strong aspiration of the masses. At present, our province is socially and politically stable, and the public order situation is tranquil. However, criminal activities seriously endangering social order are still rampant, public order problems are considerable, and there are a host of destabilizing factors. A lot of work is needed to maintain our province's social order and stability. To crush the arrogance of criminal offenders, we should focus our attention on fighting against criminal gangs and hooligan forces with the properties of a syndicate; cracking down on the crime of drug- trafficking and such violent criminal activities as murder, robbery, the use of bombs, and kidnapping; solving a number of cases; capturing a number of fugitives; destroying the underground drug-selling network; and confiscating illegal arms and explosives.

Lu Ruihua pointed out: Various localities must concentrate on tackling key problems and cracking down on serious crimes in light of their actual conditions and with specific targets in mind, so as to achieve practical results in tackling key local public order problems. Meanwhile, special efforts must be made to improve the administrative work of public security defense, to intensify police patrols and social control, to keep building and strengthening small districts that are safe and civilized, and to put into effect the theft-prevention work for financial units and urban residential areas. We must resolutely clear up the "three-no people" [san wu ren yuan 0005 2477 0086 0765] in large and medium-sized cities, tighten the control over houses for rent, and keep sweeping away pornography, gambling, and drug addiction to purify the social atmosphere. To ensure social stability, we must strive to eliminate the destabilizing factors in society, properly handle mass events with patience and care, and nip contradictions in the bud. To build up a strong momentum on maintaining social stability and order, we should bring into full play the role of the press and radio and television networks in guiding the public opinion and give wide publicity to the meritorious actions of the broad masses in struggling with criminals and to the heroic deeds of the judicial, procuratorial, and public security police in fighting against enemies and protecting the people. He called on all levels of party committees and governments to pay close attention to the work of maintaining social order and stability, make arrangements for the work, and play a direct leading role in it. All departments should coordinate closely with each other and the broad masses should play an active part in maintaining Guangdong's social order.

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Mai Chongkai, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee's politics and law commission, raised concrete ideas on the work of maintaining social order and stability. Leaders of the party committees and governments of various cities and counties and persons in charge of the politics and law commission, the committee for comprehensive management of public security, and the departments concerned attended the telephone conference.

PRC: Guangdong Promises Vigorous Environmental Protection

OW0506151096 Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in English 1402 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] June 5 (CNS) — Despite the fact that much has been done to protect environment and progress has been made, the overall situation in Guangdong remains worrying. Now the provincial government vows to take effective measures to curb pollution and save the ecological environment from deteriorating.

Yesterday, Huang Weihong, deputy chief of the staff of the provincial government, briefed the local press about the situation and environment protection measures to be taken.

Mr. Huang said that in 1995, the situation of air pollution was slightly improved over 1994 while the water quality of the 33 major rivers, lakes and reservoirs under observation was satisfactory, with pollution in its coastal waters being brought under control.

In terms of water quality, the East River and West River are the best, followed by the Han River and the North River, as opposed to the Shenzhen River and the Guangzhou section of the Pearl River which have been both awfully contaminated.

Pollution caused by acid rain is still very rampant with cities of Guangzhou, Jiangmen, Foshan and Chaozhou being frequently affected. In fact, acid rain has been recorded in 90 per cent cities in Guangdong.

On the issue of noise pollution brought about by road traffic in the urban areas, Mr. Huang was pleased to remark that this had come under control.

He acknowledged that in the past five years, funds injected by Guangdong into environmental protection were less than the national average. He said that this must be changed, adding that the provincial government would raise the level of environmental investment to 1.5 per cent of its GDP by the year 2000 from its present 0.7 per cent.

Mr. Huang further disclosed that over the next five years attention would be paid to curbing air and water pollution, with more emphasis put on prevention of the East River, the West River and the Han River from being contaminated. Authority concerned will also set up acid rain control zones in cities of Guangzhou, Foshan, Shaoguan, Dongguan, Shenzhen and Qingyuan.

PRC: Shantou Ground Satellite Station Operational

OW0506004996 Beijing XINHUA in English 0016 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Shantou, June 5 (XINHUA) — A ground satellite station in Shantou, a coastal city in south China's Guangdong Province has become operational.

Costing 40 million yuan, the station has opened 120 transmission lines in five directions, including Shantou-Tianjin and Shantou- Wuhan, providing air bridges between Shantou and many domestic, as well overseas cities.

PRC: Commentator Article Urges Guangzhou Leaders To Join Crime Campaign

OW0606063196 Guangzhou NANFANG RIBAO in Chinese 30 Apr 96 p 1

[Commentator article: "Leaders With Primary Responsibility Should Both Command and Join the Battle"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Like the rest of the country, our province is waging a large-scale struggle to strike hard at crime in accordance with the party Central Committee's important policy decision. The provincial party committee and government have urged localities throughout the province to take prompt action to strike hard at serious criminal activities, to vigorously solve glaring law-and-order problems that have drawn strong public reaction, and to go all-out to safeguard our province's public order and social stability. This is essential for the sustained development of our economy, and represents the strong wish of the people.

The current struggle to strike hard at crime differs from the special struggles of the past. The focus is on fighting underworld criminal (evil) forces, banning drug trafficking, fighting serious violent crimes, and intensifying efforts to fight and prevent crime in a comprehensive manner. The task is very heavy. It is of paramount importance that we strengthen leadership. Leading party and government cadres at all levels, especially those with primary responsibility, should both command and join the struggle. Xie Fei, CPC Central Committee Political Bureau member and provincial party committee secretary, recently took the lead in

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going down to the grass-roots level and going among the people to study and implement — along with grass-roots cadres and people — measures for cracking down on, preventing, and controlling crime, thus setting an example for principal leading party and government cadres at all levels throughout the province. We hope that principal leading party and government cadres at all levels will truly assume responsibility, fully recognize the importance and necessity of waging a struggle to strike hard at crime, heighten their sense of responsibility and mission, and display a strong fighting will in conscientiously strengthening leadership over the struggle.

In waging the struggle to strike hard at crime, we should vigorously publicize the might of the law, and publicize and commend the worthy deeds of cadres and people bravely fighting criminals. Also publicize the heroic deeds of public security cadres and policemen in cracking down on crime and protecting the people without showing fear for dangers and their own lives. We should foster a healthy atmosphere, crack down on evil forces, and turn criminals into "rats that run across the stre amid shouts of hatred." To ensure smooth progress in this work, party and government leaders at all levels, especially those with primary responsibility, should take a hands-on approach, make plans, and carry out this work in a down-to-earth manner until it is completed. Specifically, in areas with glaring law-and-order problems, leading cadres should lead delegations to the grass-roots level, and organize various departments and mobilize grass-roots organizations to resolutely implement the principles of "meting out stiff and swift punishment" in accordance with the law and of "combining crackdown with prevention." We should combine crackdown, prevention, control, and construction; combine the struggle to strike hard at crime with the effort to safeguard social and political stability; eliminate "pornography, gambling, and drug trafficking"; implement various measures pertaining to the struggle to strike hard at crime in all villages, neighborhoods, and grass- roots units; and improve all tasks of preventing and controlling crime. In this way, the struggle to strike hard at crime will forge ahead with irresistible force; the situation will quickly take a turn for the better; and we will achieve optimum overall results.

PRC: Guangzhou Reports Crime Rate Dropping

OW0506100596 Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in English 0931 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] June 5 (CNS) — Subsequent to intensive police crack-down on crimes that has been launched since the middle of April, public order has been greatly improved in Guangzhou as collaborated by falling crime rate and number of heinous cases in May compared with April.

Over the past month or so, local police cracked down numerous criminal cases, arrested a great many offenders and seized a batch of firearms and ammunition. For example, the police of the Yuexiu District acted swiftly to smash a syndicate of five gangsters who had conspired to kidnap a Hong Kong businessman and blackmailed RMB [renminbi] 320,000 in Shunde city.

In addition, Guangzhou police have raided more than 700 dens and black spots in the city, and checked some 20,000 people without valid identity card, permanent occupation and residence.

PRC: Hubei Strengthens Land Management

OW0606083096 Beijing XINHUA in English 0748 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Wuhan, June 6 (XINHUA) — By cracking over 6,000 cases a year, a provincial land administration in China has saved more than 2,000 hectares of farmland from rampant occupation over the past decade.

Between 1986 and 1995 land occupied by construction totalled 96,300 hectares, 40,000 hectares less than the previous decade, said Wang Jian, an official with the land administration in central China's Hubei Province.

With the setting up of an administrative system for the examination and approval of land rights, the province's space of land used for construction has decreased, despite the growth of economic development, Wang said.

In Jingzhou Prefecture 80 percent of farmland has been put under priority protection. Administrators of land in the province have become more competent in their work. At present 25 percent of land management officials have received college education.

Wang went on to say that the provincial administration has effectively adjusted the structure of land use.

Even when less land is used for construction, the building of a number of energy, transportation and industrial projects, such as a section of the Beijing-Kowloon railway, Hanchuan Power Plant, has been completed successfully.

As a major agricultural province, Hubei faces acute shortage of land, with each person having 0.05 hectares at present.

In order to guarantee an annual increase of 500 million kg in grain output during the Ninth Five-Year

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Plan Period (1996-2000), the land administration will strengthen law enforcement, reform land use systems to ensure the area of farmland stands above 3.3 million hectares, Wang said.

The administration plans to reclaim more waste land, waste mountains and slopes, so that 33,000 hectares of land can be developed, he said.

North Region

PRC: Beijing Mayor Li Qiyan Discusses Environmental Protection

SK0306141296 Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese 21 May 96 p 1

[Article by reporter Chen Hongmei (7115 4767 2734)]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The environmental protection law enforcement inspection group of the National People's Congress [NPC] Standing Committee led by Wang Bingqian, vice chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, began its law enforcement inspection in Beijing on 20 May. Wei Jianxing, secretary of the municipal party committee, welcomed the inspection group on behalf of the municipal party committee and government, and called on relevant departments across the municipality to modestly accept inspection, conscientiously listen to opinions and suggestions from the inspection group, and take the opportunity of this inspection to promote Beijing's environmental protection work to a new stage.

The NPC Standing Committee decided to conduct an environmental protection law inspection in Beijing, Tianjin, and Shanghai from April to June. After its inspection in Shanghai on 30 April, the group began its inspection in Beijing on 20-27 May. [passage omitted] At the report meeting held on 20 May, Mayor Li Qiyan gave a speech. He said: The group's inspection in Beijing has manifested the great attention which the party and the state have paid to environmental protection undertakings, as well as their concern and support for our work. This will surely play a great role in promoting the development of Beijing's environmental protection undertakings. The Beijing Municipal party committee and government have persistently attached great importance to environmental protection work in past years. After the promulgation and implementation of the "environmental protection law," environment protection work has been comprehensively channeled to the path of the law; environmental protection organs have been unceasingly strengthened; laws and systems have been unceasingly improved; propaganda and education, as well as administrative and law enforcement strength, have been unceasingly expanded; and in particular, unremitting efforts have been made to accelerate the building of urban infrastructure facilities and to continuously conduct large environmental comprehensive improvement work. The environments of urban and rural areas have not been relatively deteriorated despite the rapid economic development and unceasing population growth, and some areas have seen improvements to varying degrees. During an evaluation on the environmental comprehensive improvement among 37 key cities across the country, Beijing Municipality won the honorable title of "city outstanding in 10 aspects" for six successive years.

Li Qiyan said: Beijing Municipality's environmental quality still lags far behind the demands of the party Central Committee and State Council and the desire of the people. Viewed subjectively, the environmental sense of some leaders is not strong, and the sense of environment and concept of the legal system of all the people is also poor; the enacted laws and regulations fail to comply with the situational development, and law enforcement strength is inadequate. Objectively, Beijing Municipality is large in scale and dense in population; its infrastructure facilities are relatively sluggish and backward; the environmental improvement task is arduous; and it is seriously short of funds. Under the influence of these factors, some fairly prominent problems have occurred in Beijing's urban and rural environments: the pollution caused by coal smoke during the period of generating warmth is serious; pollution from powder dust and from car exhaust has not been effectively brought under control; industrial and water pollution in some areas is fairly prominent; the rate of pollution-free disposal of trash and industrial solid wastes is fairly low; and in particular, the problem of sound pollution has become more serious in recent years.

Li Qiyan said: Beijing Municipality has regarded environmental protection work as one of its extremely important tasks during the next 15 years, including it in the "Beijing Municipal Ninth Five-Year Plan for economic and social development and the long-term target for the year 2010"; has regarded "persisting in coordinating economic and social development with natural resources, population, and the environment and following the road of seeking sustainable development" as an important defined guiding principle; has proposed fighting targets for controlling the aggravated trend of environmental pollution and ecological destruction by the year 2000; and has formulated various practical measures. All districts and departments are making efforts to formulate and implement specific plans. [passage omitted]

Executive Vice Mayor Zhang Baifa gave a briefing on Beijing Municipal's situation in implementing the environmental protection law and regulations. Wang Tong,

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vice chairman of the municipal people's congress Standing Committee, gave a briefing on strengthening environmental protection law enforcement and supervision within the municipality. [passage omitted]

PRC: More Beijing Students Apply To Join Communist Party

OW0506130496 Beijing XINHUA in English 1246 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 5 (XINHUA) — More than one fifth of college students in the Chinese capital are applying to join the Communist Party of China (CPC), setting a record for the past two decades, according to a local report.

In 67 Beijing colleges and universities, 32,367 students have applied to the school CPC committees for membership, accounting for 23.34 percent of the total college student population here, and rising about five percentage points over last year, the "Beijing Daily" said today.

The students show enthusiasm for special Party schools and classes, where they study the theories of Marxism-Leninism, the history of the CPC and Deng Xiaoping's theory of building socialism with Chinese characteristics, according to the report.

Some of them are expected to be approved to join the Party before July 1 this year, the 75th anniversary of founding of the CPC, the report said.

Currently, five percent of college students are Communist Party members, it said.

At Beijing University, one of China's leading academies, 473 students and 41 faculty members became CPC members last year, 239 more than the figure for 1994, according to an early report of the "Beijing Daily".

"The student Communist Party members usually have high political consciousness and good academic performance," the report quoted Ren Yanshen, secretary of the university's CPC committee, as saying.

"Because of their outstanding performance, the student Party members are generally preferred and welcomed by employers when they look for jobs, which to some extent encourages college students to join the Party," it said.

PRC: Tangshan To Hold Trade Fair To Mark Quake Anniversary

OW0606011496 Beijing XINHUA in English 0008 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Shijiazhuang, June 6 (XINHUA) — The Chinese city that has risen from the ashes of the country's worse [as received] ever earthquake, is to hold a major fair — to show the world how it is looking to the future.

Tangshan, in north China's Hebei Province, is to hold an investment and trade fair to mark the 20th anniversary of the severe earthquake.

The fair, to be held between July 27 to 31, will provide 1,800 projects for cooperation, and display more than 2,000 locally made products.

The earthquake on July 28, 1976 nearly buried Tangshan city, then a key industrial city in north China.

With economic development in the past 20 years, Tangshan city has developed from scratch into a major base for energy and raw materials in the country.

The gross domestic product of the city was listed No. 22 in the cities across the country, statistics show.

The city now has more than 300 foreign-funded enterprises and some 500 enterprises producing for export.

***PRC: Inner Mongolia Chairman on Electric Power Development**

96CM0280A Hohhot NEIMENGGU RIBAO in Chinese 13 Mar 96 , pp 1,4

[Article by NEIMENGGU RIBAO reporter Wang Rantong (3769 3544 1749) and Neimenggu People's Broadcast Station reporter Niu Yaming (3662 0068 5407): "The Glowing Accomplishments of the "Eighth Five-Year Plan" and Bright Promise for the 'Ninth Five-Year Plan': An Interview With Wu Liji, National People's Congress Deputy and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Electric Power Bureau Director"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In Inner Mongolia in the northern border regions of China, one industry topped the list of the most rapidly developing industries in its sector and received particular attention during the Fourth Session of the Eighth National People's Congress. This industry was electric power, and the development of this industry in Inner Mongolia promises to be even more exciting during the Ninth Five-Year Plan. Hence, reporters visited ethnic Mongolian electric power expert Wu Liji, deputy to the Eighth National People's Congress and director of the Electric Power Bureau of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

With the excitement of a worker extolling the products he has made or a farmer tasting the crops which he has planted and harvested, Wu Liji described for the reporters the development of electric power in the region during the past few years.

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During the "Eighth Five-Year Plan," funds invested in the development of electric power in the autonomous region totalled 9.66 billion yuan (not including investment by the Northeast Electric Power Bureau). Construction and expansion projects to upgrade the Fengzhen Power Plant, the Dalate Power Plant, the Haibowan Power Plant, Huhehaote Power Plant, the Huiliuhe Power Plant, the Wulanhaote Thermopower Plant, the Xilinhaote Number 2 Power Plant, and the Zhungeer Power Plant accounted for a total of 1,766 MW with accompanying support construction.

As of the end of 1995, the capacity of power generating equipment installed in the autonomous region was over 5,000 MW and up to 5,860 MW. The capacity of the power grid managed by the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Electric Power Bureau is 3,580 MW, that of the Northeast Power Bureau is 1,779 MW, and of other industrial power plants 505 MW.

During the Eighth Five-Year Plan, production enterprises within the bureau paid a total of 1.62 billion yuan in taxes and realized profits of 1.241 billion yuan, representing increases of 195 percent and 211 percent, respectively, over the Seventh Five-Year Plan. Profits and taxes paid to the autonomous region totalled 1.948 billion yuan, more than double that paid during the Seventh Five-Year Plan. In 1995, production enterprises realized gross sales receipts of 3.393 billion yuan, equivalent to the cumulative total for all of the five years of the Seventh Five-Year Plan. From 1992, the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Electric Power Management Bureau was rated first in the country among its peers in economic efficiency for three years in a row. At the end of 1995, the value of fixed assets held was up to 11.5 billion yuan, a value which had more than quadrupled since 1990. Five years of diversified operations had produced 4.557 billion yuan in total income and realized profits and taxes of 309 million yuan, over six times greater than during the Seventh Five-Year Plan.

After five years of arduous struggle, the goals of reaching "production from investment" and quadrupling production were met early and the goals of "95112" systems engineering were also implemented on schedule. This allowed the electric power industry in Inner Mongolia to reach a new phase in the national power grid, with large power plants, high power generating sets, high parameters, high voltage, and high automation. The autonomous region has one of the highest levels per capita in the country for installed generating equipment and for power generated and is first in the nation in the growth of power generation and in electric power sent out per capita. One quarter of the power used is sent to Beijing, thus ending Beijing's history of cutting off or limiting electric power. The region also exports electricity to Mongolia and other countries. Inner Mongolia has thus become a major electric power base in northern China.

The percentage of banners and counties, towns and sumus, villages, and gachas in the entire autonomous region with electricity has reached 100 percent, 91.94 percent and 87.02 percent, respectively. Five banners and counties have implemented rural electrification. Wind generators installed in the entire region are up to a capacity of 1,075 KW, 18 times greater than in 1990, and second in the entire nation. The annual wind generated power is 24 times higher than in 1990.

Why has the electric power industry developed so quickly in Inner Mongolia? Deputy Wu Liji says that the main reasons have been the support of the central government, the correct leadership of the party committee and government of the autonomous region, focused cooperation among the various relevant departments, and the joint efforts of all the employees of the entire bureau. In keeping with the experiences of the electric power industry, we instituted a series of measures to reform and strengthen management and took responsibility for the autonomous region to achieve "production from investment." The enterprises implemented internal "three systems" reforms and the reorganization of the company system to establish limited liability companies and joint stock companies, strengthen management, improve quality, carry out new standards of safety and civilization, create new factories and new systems, decrease personnel and increase efficiency, and implement widescale diversified operations, etc.

Although this deputy who had made great contributions to the rapid development of the electric power industry in Inner Mongolia said nothing of his own sweat and tribulations, his hard-won accomplishments are well-known. It was Wu, with the support of all levels of the leadership, who used his vision to spot the "root" of the issue and his hands to grasp the keys to bring Inner Mongolia's power industry out of dire straits. It was Wu who used the courage of a surfer and the skills to grasp the blue ribbon to spur the development pace of Inner Mongolia's power industry to dash for first place in the nation in the power industry competition. The glowing accomplishments of Inner Mongolia's power industry development during the "Eighth Five-Year Plan" owe a significant debt to Mr. Wu.

While speaking of the bright future for the region's power development during the "Ninth Five-Year Plan," Deputy Wu Liji said that we will take full advantage of the great opportunities presented by the central government's policies favoring key support for development in the central and western regions and in ethnic minority regions. "121" systems engineering will be implemented

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throughout the region's electric power system. The existing 5,000 MW will be managed properly and additional construction is to work toward an additional 5,000 MW. In the near future, 5,000 MW will be added so that the region's total capacity of installed power generating equipment can reach 10,000 MW by the year 2000.

We must hold steadfast to our pursuit of the reorganization of companies, the commercialization of operations, and the use of legal systems in management, to deepen reform, liberate, and develop production power, and strive to carry out the "two transformations." The main task is to establish a power industry enterprise system inter-linked by capital, with a modernized enterprise system as the goal. The reform of the power industry enterprises should be linked to reorganization, retooling, and strengthened management. Power industry enterprises should be more dynamic, management of the power grid is to be strengthened, and market mechanisms perfected. More electric power should be exported from the region. Inner Mongolia should become the great electric energy base for the country.

Deputy Wu Liji said, although we still face many more difficulties, we must grasp opportunities and continue to deepen reform and further expand opening and cooperation, in keeping with the extensive study and discussions on the deep involvement of the entire power system in the development of socialist market economic theory. With the support of the party committee and the government of the autonomous region and the unified efforts of all the staff of the bureau, we will certainly meet our goals.

PRC: Oroqen County in Inner Mongolia Implements Greater Autonomy

OW0606065396 Beijing XINHUA in English 0619 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hohhot, June 6 (XINHUA) — Oroqen Autonomous Banner, a county in Inner Mongolia which inhabits the smallest minority ethnic group in China, is now implementing more flexible autonomous policies.

On June 1, the Standing Committee of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region adopted the Regulations on Autonomy in the Oroqen Autonomous Banner.

Oroqen covers 60,000 square kilometers and had a population of 310,000 at the end of last year, including 2,130 Oroqen people.

The people there originated from the Heilongjiang River Valley and still lived in primitive conditions before the founding of New China in 1949. Formerly only hunters and fishermen, they now are also engaged in farming and livestock breeding.

The Oroqen County government may formulate new policies and take additional measures to train officials and technical personnel of Oroqen and other minority ethnic groups, in accordance with the Regulations on Autonomy in Oroqen Autonomous Banner.

The County government can give priority to Oroqen people and people of other minority ethnic groups in hiring civil servants. It will also be responsible for developing local natural resources and protecting historic sites and relics.

The Regulations also state that June 7 marks the establishment of the Oroqen Autonomous Banner, and that Oroqen's traditional festival, a campfire, will be held June 18.

Northwest Region

PRC: Sino-German Ningxia Shelter Forest Project Carried Out

OW0606034796 Beijing XINHUA in English 0138 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yinchuan, June 6 (XINHUA) — A Sino-German project to build an ecological shelter forest in northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region has been carried out after four years preparation.

The project, approved by the State Planning Commission in 1992, is to build a 200-kilometer-long shelter forest in the eastern part of the Helanshan Mountain, using free aid of 12 million Deutsche Marks from Germany and 62.19 million yuan from China.

Germany has invested two million Deutsche Mark in building forests of 1,400 hectares and raising seedlings on 80 ha this spring.

Under the plan the project will provide 8,850 ha of forest, closing hillsides to facilitate forests by 30,000 ha, and building 234 kilometers of canals, five pumping stations and power and high pressure water lines in the coming five years.

The Ningxia government has paid great attention to the project and has listed it as a priority in the provincial development schedule in the Ninth Five-Year Plan period (1996-2000).

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PRC: Qinghai Sums Up Experience in Anti-Crime Struggle

SK0506082296 Xining QINGHAI RIBAO in Chinese 16 May 96 p 1

[By reporter Zhu Wenping (2612 2429 1627)]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 15 May, the political and legal commission of the provincial party committee held a meeting to sum up the preceding-stage experiences in waging the "serious crackdown" struggle. At the meeting, leaders of the organs under the provincial public security and procuratorial departments and the provincial court respectively reported on the major achievements in the unified action launched at 0000 on "11 May, as well as on the progress of the "serious crackdown" struggle with the close assistance of the procuratorial organs and the courts. Yao Xiangcheng, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee, fully affirmed the achievements in the preceding stage and urged all departments concerned to make consistent efforts to win an overall success in the struggle.

Since the launching of the "serious crackdown" struggle, our province has cracked down on a large number of criminal cases; a large number of criminals have fallen into the net of justice; a large number of escaped criminals have been arrested; a number of criminal gangs have been ferreted out; a number of shelters manufacturing and trafficking in firearms have been destroyed; and 201 firearms of various kinds, 57,000 rounds of bullet, and more than 200 grams of narcotics have been confiscated. On behalf of the provincial party committee, Yao Xiangcheng expressed heartfelt thanks and cordial regards to the units participating in the struggle, as well as the broad masses of cadres and policemen on the public security front, the armed police officers and men, party and government cadres, and public security activists. Yao Xiangcheng said: Now, our province is at the key moment of the "serious crackdown" struggle. Although we have made a success in the current-stage struggle, we still have a long way to go in order to attain the party Central Committee's requirements and the people's expectations, and there are heavy tasks behind us. We should squarely face the arduousness and complicated nature of the struggle, further strengthen leadership, make consistent efforts to expand the dynamics of attack, achieve cooperation, and win an overall success in the struggle.

Yao Xiangcheng stressed: We should further upgrade our understanding and intensify the responsibility of the leaders at various levels. The procuratorial, judicial, and security departments and their cadres and policemen, particularly the public security organs and their cadres and policemen that are at the forefront of the struggle, should carry forward the work style of continuous fighting, carefully organize the struggle, and continuously deepen the struggle. The struggle cannot be achieved only by relying on the efforts of the procuratorial, judicial, and public security departments, but must be carried out with the concerted efforts and positive participation of all trades and professions under the unified leadership of the party committees and governments at various levels. The provincial party committee urged that the leaders of all departments and units should further upgrade their understanding; intensify responsibility; pay high attention to the struggle and the overall improvement of public order; and organize and mobilize the broad masses of cadres, the staff and workers, and the people to positively support and coordinate with the province's unified action. Simultaneously, we should adopt measures to formulate regulations, do a good job in watching our units and personnel, consolidate the order of our units, and ensure the stability of our units. The public security and procuratorial departments and the courts should resolutely implement the policy on stern and immediate penalty, work closely in cooperation with one another, and steadily, accurately, and sternly attack criminal offenders. We should ensure to rapidly arrest, prosecute, and try criminals; to rapidly conclude their cases; and to sternly and rapidly punish them according to laws. Those who knowingly commit crimes to the neglect of the authority of the socialist legal system should sternly be punished.

Yao Xiangcheng pointed out that we should fully mobilize and rely on the masses. He said: Without the support and participation of the masses, we will be unable to attain the determined target of the struggle. We should fully mobilize the people's enthusiasm to fight against illegal and criminal activities. First, the public security departments should try every possible means to rapidly crack increasingly more major cases so as to make the people see real results in the struggle. Second, we should expand the dynamics of propaganda, forcefully take the offensive against criminals, and form an atmosphere of regarding criminal offenders as the object of universal condemnation. Third, we should vigorously commend the advanced deeds of being ready to take up the cudgels and form a good social practice of supporting healthy trends and checking unhealthy ones. Yao Xiangcheng stressed that we should organically combine the serious crackdown with the overall improvement of public order; apply means, such as attack, prevention, management, education, correction, and improvement, and make efforts to guard against and reduce criminals; and steadily improve the public order.

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Leaders of the political and legal commission under the provincial party committee set forth requirements for further waging the "serious crackdown" struggle.

PRC: Xinjiang Holds CPPCC Meeting on Stability

OW0106134896 Urumqi XINJIANG RIBAO in Chinese 17 May 96 p 1

[By reporter Zhu Tong (2612 1749) from Urumqi: "The Regional Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Holds a Meeting Demanding Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference at Various Levels and Their Members Energetically Make Contribution to Xinjiang's Stability and Development"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The regional Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) held a meeting 14-15 May to relay the important instruction of the central authorities on safeguarding Xinjiang's stability and the guidelines of the regional party committee work meeting. The meeting demanded that CPPCC at all levels of the whole region and CPPCC members of all nationalities and circles seek unity of thinking and make respective contribution to the long-term stability and development of Xinjiang.

Janabil, chairman of the regional CPPCC, presided over the meeting. Members of the regional CPPCC attending the meeting seriously studied the important instruction of the central authorities on safeguarding Xinjiang's stability and the guidelines of the regional party committee work meeting, and put forward many proposals on how to properly implement them. During the discussion, they all expressed that they must take the lead in doing work for stability and unity with a strong sense of political responsibility and make contribution to the stability and development of Xinjiang.

Janabil made an important speech at the meeting. He pointed out that properly implementing the guidelines of the regional party committee work meeting is the first central task of CPPCC at all levels in the region. We must seek unity in thinking, make clear our tasks, and understand the extreme importance of safeguarding Xinjiang's stability and speeding up Xinjiang's development from the strategic high plane that Xinjiang's development has a bearing on the development of the whole country and Xinjiang's stability has a bearing on the stability of the whole country. We must firmly establish the guiding ideology that the main danger affecting Xinjiang's stability is ethnic separatism and illegal religious activities. We must firmly trust and depend on the cadres and people of all nationalities of the whole region, unite and depend on the cadres and people of all nationalities to the greatest extent, and isolate and crack down on, to the greatest extent, an extremely small number of ethnic separatists and various kinds of criminals who have committed serious crimes. We must seriously and comprehensively implement the party's nationality and religious policies, strengthen the management of religious affairs according to law, resolutely stop and ban illegal religious activities, and resolutely resist and severely crack down on religious forces outside the country's boundary and on infiltration and sabotaging activities.

Janabil emphatically pointed out that CPPCC organizations at all levels must, centering round the overall situation and task of safeguarding Xinjiang's social stability, energetically perform the functions of political consultation, democratic supervision, discussing and taking part in state affairs, and make proposals on promoting the region's social and political stability. CPPCC members of all nationalities and circles must give full play to their strong points of having strong representativeness, extensive contacts, and broad influence, earnestly show concern for hot-spot issues to which the people react strongly, report in good time to party committees and governments at various levels the situation of the society and the people and the demands of the people, show concern for the livelihood of the people and their problems, energetically assist party and government departments at various levels to carry out publicity, persuasion, explanation, and guidance work among the people, and eliminate instability factors which may emerge in their embryonic stage.

Wang Yousan, Yibulayin Rouzi, Mao Dehua, Han Youwen, Paxia Yixia, vice chairmen of the regional CPPCC; Hasimu Yimiti, secretary of the regional CPPCC; Sawdanov Zayir, memeber of the Standing Committee of the CPPCC National Committee; Ismail Mahsut, member of CPPCC National Committee; some members of the standing committee of the regional CPPCC, vice chairmen of the special committees of the regional CPPCC, members of the regional CPPCC who are CPC members, and cadres at the department deputy director level of the regional CPPCC organizations attended the meeting.

PRC: Xinjiang Bodies Call for Maintaining 'Stable Situation'

OW0706063996 Urumqi XINJIANG RIBAO in Chinese 22 May 96 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Regional Discipline Inspection Commission and Regional Supervision Department Call on Discipline Inspection and Supervision Organs Across

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Xinjiang to Strictly Enforce Politicial Discipline and Maintaining Overall Stable Situation"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The regional discipline inspection commission and the regional supervision department held a standing committee meeting and a cadres' meeting recently to relay and study the central authorities' important instructions on maintaining stability in Xinjiang and the guidelines laid down at a working conference of the regional party committee. These meetings also made arrangements according to actual conditions and called on discipline inspection and supervision organs across the region to strictly enforce political discipline , to maintain the overall stable situation [wei Hu Wen Ding da ju 4850 6233 4489 1353 1129 1444], and to do their work well in all aspects.

1. It is necessary to conscientiously study and profoundly grasp the important instructions and guidelines and to achieve unity in thinking. Party organizations at various levels should conscientiously study the central authorities' important instructions on maintaining stability in Xinjiang and the guidelines laid down at a working conference of the regional party committee. They should profoundly understand the importance of maintaining stability in Xinjiang from a strategic point of view and unify their thinking according to the requirements set by the central authorities and the regional party committee. Discipline inspection and supervision organs at various levels should guide party members and cadres in particularly understanding the following questions: Ethnic separatism and illegal religious activities are the main dangers to the stability of Xinjiang at present; our struggle against ethnic separatism will be a long-term, complicated, and arduous one; the Stability of Xinjiang is of great importance for the country as a whole; the people of Han nationality cannot do without those of minority nationalities, neither can the latter do without the former, nor can the people of minority nationalities do without one another; Xinjiang has been a multinational region and an inalienable part of our great motherland since ancient times; the people of all nationalities here have the right and duty to develop and build Xinjiang and enjoy the right to live, work, and produce in peace and contentment; the cadres and people of various nationalities in Xinjiang are the main force in safeguarding the unification of the motherland and combating ethnic separatism; in the final analysis, it is necessary to push economic construction forward in order to maintain long-term social stability. Discipline inspection and supervision organs and large numbers of cadres in these organs must resolutely stand in the forefront of the struggle to maintain stability and combat ethnic separatism in Xinjiang and confidently take a clear-cut stand in fighting against ethnic separatism.

2. It is necessary to strictly enforce political discipline and to step up efforts to investigate and handle cases. First, conscientious efforts should be made to investigate statements and actions undermining the stability of Xinjiang and to sternly deal with party members and cadres, especially leading cadres, who continue to be devout religious believers despite repeated education, instill separatist ideas and religious doctrines into young people's minds, publish distorted history, books or magazines advocating separatism and illegal religious ideas, or make audio or video products propagating such ideas. Second, in areas or departments where no conscientious efforts are made to implement the arrangements made by the central and regional authorities for maintaining stability in Xinjiang, where orders are not carried out, where serious problems in maintaining stability are not dealt with in a serious manner, or where no forces are organized to crack down on separatist and illegal religious activities, leaders should be called to account. Third, every possible effort should be made to thoroughly investigate as soon as possible and to sternly deal with cases in which party members and cadres are discovered participating in criminal activities, colluding with criminals, winking at and shielding serious criminals, or being seriously derelict of duty in the "crime crackdown" struggle, especially cases of explosions, assassinations, and other violent terrorist activities of a political coloring involving party members and cadres.

3. It is necessary to exercise supervision over law enforcement in order to ensure that the work of maintaining stability is done in a down-to-earth manner. Discipline inspection and supervision organs at various levels should implement the instructions of central authorities and the guidelines of the regional party committee's working conference as a political task and strengthen their supervision and inspection. The important aspects of supervision and law enforcement in this regard should be whether the work attitude is positive, whether measures adopted are effective, whether the work done is solid, and whether relevant departments strengthen their religious administration, improve teaching order in schools, and strengthen their management of the market for books and magazines and their management of the publishing and printing industries. They should organize personnel to exercise supervision and do inspection in these regards. In coordination with party committees, governments, and relevant departments at various levels, discipline inspection and supervision organs should conscientiously inspect the implementation of the party's policies on nationalities, and they should criticize and educate those violating this policy and take measures to correct such violations.

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4. Greater efforts should be made to deepen further the anti-corruption struggle. While stabilizing the overall situation [wen ding da ju 4489 1353 1129 1444], discipline inspection and supervision organs should work harder to effectively solve problems about which people of various nationalities have complained the most. It is necessary to step up the efforts to reduce the burdens on peasants, to check the wanton setting up of checkpoints, the indiscriminate collection of fees, and the arbitrary imposition of fines on highways, and to check the indiscriminate collection of tuitions in schools in order to make continuous progress in rectifying unhealthy trends. Leading cadres should be honest, exercise self-discipline, and put stress on refraining from spending public funds for eating, drinking, and pleasure-seeking and from using automobiles and occupying housing against regulations, and on rectifying unhealthy trends. They should do a good job in self-examination and self-rectification, in organizing inspections and mass discussions, and in strictly enforcing discipline. In investigating cases of violating the law and discipline, it is essential to thoroughly check the clues already in hand. Personnel should be organized to make breakthroughs in investigating major or serious cases in order to deepen further the anti-corruption struggle.

PRC: Chief of General Staff Inspects Troops in Xinjiang

OW0606034696 Urumqi XINJIANG RIBAO in Chinese 20 May 96 p 1

[Report by reporter Zhang Nianchun (1728 1628 2504) and correspondent Chen Yu (7115 6735): "Fu Quanyou, Member of the Central Military Commission and Chief of the General Staff, Cordially Encourages Troops Stationed in Xinjiang To Build Their Units into a Great Wall of Steel Guarding the Unification of the Motherland"]

[FBIS Translated Text] General Fu Quanyou, member of the Central Military Commission and chief of the general staff, stopped over in Urumqi from 17 to 20 May after winding up his overseas trip. During his stay, the General Staff chief cheerfully inspected an engineer regiment and its equipment and heard a briefing by the Xinjiang leadership. He issued important instructions on the building of the army units stationed in Xinjiang.

After hearing a briefing by Zhou Yongshun, deputy political commissar of the Lanzhou Military Region and political commissar of the Xinjiang Military District, General Staff Chief Fu fully affirmed the achievements made in various fields by the army units stationed in the region.

The chief of the general staff said: The position of the troops under the Xinjiang Military District is strategically very important. The party Central Committee, the State Council, and the Central Military Commission are now very much concerned about the development and stability of Xinjiang. The situation facing the army units stationed in the region is very complicated, their tasks are arduous, and the requirements set for them are also high. The stability of Xinjiang has a direct bearing on that of the country as a whole. So comrades of the army units stationed here must look at this problem from a strategic point of view and according to political requirements. You must continuously enhance your sense of mission and responsibility, do your work well, and make a bigger contribution to defending, building, and stabilizing Xinjiang.

Chief of the General Staff Fu set the following five specific work requirements for the troops under the Xinjiang Military District: 1. You must pay attention to politics and grasp the fundamentals. At all times and under all circumstances you must always follow a firm and correct political orientation and make sure that your troops are politically qualified. 2. You must maintain Xinjiang's stability in an all-round way. It is a very serious political struggle to combat ethnic separatism and maintain Xinjiang's stability. You must educate each and every officer and soldier in how to correctly understand the nature of this struggle and how to withstand this test. You must sharply maintain vigilance, conscientiously make full preparations, and build the army units here into a great wall of steel to combat ethnic separatism and safeguard the unification of the motherland. You should take the initiative in coordinate with local party committees and governments in work, consult with them on countermeasures [dui ce 1417 4595] to be taken, and do a good job in cooperating with them. You should further strengthen army-government and army-people unity and the unity of various nationalities in order to form a strong joint force against ethnic separatism and to make an ever bigger contribution to the stability and development of Xinjiang. 3. It is necessary to strengthen the training and supervision of troops. 4. Vigorous efforts should be made to grasp basic units and to lay a foundation. It is essential to strengthen the building of party branches and the building of the cadre ranks and to raise the ability of basic-level party branches and cadres to solve their own problems. 5. Logistical work must be done effectively in order to ensure adequate logistical support.

Chief of the General Staff Fu inspected troops in Xinjiang in the company of Wen Zongren, political commissar of the Lanzhou Military Region, who had

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accompanied Chief of the General Staff Fu on his overseas trip, and other leading comrades.

PRC: Xinjiang Party Committee Rebuilds Grass-Root Organizations

OW0306053396 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0845 GMT 2 Jun 96

[By reporter Xu Junfeng (1776 6511 1496)]

[FBIS Translated Text] Urumqi, 2 Jun (XINHUA) — The Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Party Committee has taken measures to reorganize rural areas' grass-roots party organizations, doing so while focusing efforts on promoting economic construction. The move has noticeably increased the coherence and militancy of rural areas' grass-roots organizations, which have now become staunch leading cores and fighting fortresses, guiding peasants and herdsmen of all ethnic groups to shake off poverty.

After thorough investigation and studies, the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region CPC Committee decided to rebuild the region's grass-roots party organizations, placing special emphasis on those in backward villages. During the course of reshuffling all grass-roots organizations last year, it reorganized 1,243 party branches of backward villages. Now the average age of village party branch secretaries has been lowered to 40.9, and 80.6 percent of the party branch secretaries are at least junior high school graduates. For those villages which did not have party branch secretaries, the regional party committee has reinforced them by sending them young cadres selected from county and township party organizations.

Meanwhile, the regional party committee has also established a system under which departments of party organs have to establish ties with designated villages. In implementing this system, the regional party committee has sent nearly 20,000 cadres of party organs to the rural areas to guide their work. Moreover, the regional party committee has also educated the region's party member-peasants and herdsmen on the theory of building socialism with Chinese characteristics, science and technology, ethnic solidarity, and atheism. So far the region has held 2,568 training classes and trained 228,000 party members, or 95.9 percent of the region's party members.

While rebuilding the rural areas' grass-roots party organizations, the regional party committee has also instructed all local authorities to help local people shake off poverty through developing the local economy. Currently nearly 80 percent of the party members in the rural areas of the poverty-stricken prefectures — such as Kashi, Kizilsu, Aksu, and Altay — have already shaken off poverty. To enable party members to demonstrate their exemplary vanguard role, many places in Xinjiang have instituted a system under which party members who have become affluent are obligated by contract to help impoverished families shake off poverty. Currently 104 townships and towns and 807 villages in various parts of Xinjiang have been designated to demonstrate how their people have been able to live a comparatively comfortable life.

PRC: Xinjiang Prefecture Fights Violence, Ensures Production

OW0506001196 Urumqi XINJIANG RIBAO in Chinese 19 May 96 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] Party and government organizations at all levels of Aksu Prefecture have ensured social stability while endeavoring to increase agricultural production, enabling the prefecture's work in all fields to develop in a healthy and orderly manner.

Since mid-February this year, several violent and terrorist incidents have taken place in Aksu Prefecture's Kuqa and other counties. After the incidents took place, the Aksu Prefectural CPC Committee and Administrative Office promptly laid down plans to solve the cases. They organized a police force and mobilized the masses to launch an all-out assault — rounding up, pursuing, and intercepting the criminals — enabling them to capture scores of members of reactionary gangs and organizations and to confiscate a batch of guns, explosives, detonators, knives, and other tools used to commit crimes.

At the same time, the prefectural CPC committee and administrative office promptly organized activities to relay and study the party central committee's important instructions on maintaining stability in Xinjiang and the guidelines of the Xinjiang Autonomous Regional CPC Committee's work conference. They carried out struggle in the light of local reality and seriously unified the ideological understanding of cadres and people of all nationalities. They guided cadres and people of all nationalities to expose and repudiate the nationalistic splittist elements' sabotaging activities; and, at the same time, they ensured that all economic work was properly carried out. In the light of local reality, the prefecture formulated its Ninth Five-Year Plan for economic and social development, and decided on forceful and sustained economic development, focusing on developing agriculture. Currently, the prefecture is peaceful, its social order is good, and local residents are busy working for development. Sowing on 1.85 million mu of cotton fields has been completed and the cotton is growing well. Winter wheat is also growing well on 1.5 million mu. Cadres and people of all nationalities are full of confidence about reaping a

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should compare our performance with other people's performance. Thus, sluggish progress is the same as regression. Maybe some people maintain that our per capita income today ranks 25th in the world — and in fact our competitiveness can be called satisfactory because it ranked between 14th and 18th in the world in recent years according to Switzerland's Lausanne College of Management — I personally think that, when we compare our competitiveness with Singapore and Hong Kong, which rank second and third respectively, we must act quickly to catch up with them. The government is determined that, before we enter the 21st century, our country's competitiveness must be among the top five in the world. The efforts that the government is going to make are not only meant for winning the honor of attaining a higher-ranking position, but for improving our competitiveness as a whole through carrying out earnest reforms so that our future will be even brighter.

Major factors that affect competitiveness and that receive universal attention can be roughly divided into the following eight categories: Domestic economic (?strength), the degree of internationalization, government efficiency, financial strength, infrastructure, management capability, scientific-technological development, proficient personnel, and quality of life. As our country's current conditions go, I think we must add two major factors of cross-strait relations and social stability. We should therefore examine our country's strengths and weaknesses very objectively on the basis of these 10 major categories. From now on government departments must improve their (?efficiency) promptly in a responsible manner. Just as the president has instructed us, we must deal with our problems with actual deeds.

Third, let us talk about solving issues with actions. While the president has put forth all kinds of demands of reform, people of various nongovernmental sectors also have a lot of criticism [pi ping] and proposals for government policies. After deep thinking, I am of the opinion that the general direction of our reform should be included in the 10 major categories, and that the assessment contained in the world report of competitiveness completely matches with the situation of the Republic of China. For example, factors weakening the competitiveness of our country include inadequate infrastructure, high cost of living, poor quality of life, too much of financial structural transformations, inadequate internationalization, administrative inefficiency, and other weaknesses. Therefore, from now on, the Executive Yuan will go all out to improve its administration in a bid to scale the heights of global competitiveness in response to domestic and international situation. Now, I would like to put forward some ideas and methods for comments by all sectors of society, as well as all the attending members. With competitiveness as the mainstay of the policy, first, we will exercise administrative functions with all our strength, enhance service for the people, improve the investment environment, and raise living standards at home. Second, we must step up the pace of internationalization and liberalization internationally. Third, with the understanding that Chinese will help Chinese, we will actively seek improvement in cross-strait relations with goodwill and sincerity. The availability of this sort of initiative needs the participation of the entire population and the determination of the government in order to make headway. First, the enhancement of competitiveness must begin with the government itself. Since its implementation of administrative reform three years ago, although the government has achieved considerable success in honesty, efficiency, public convenience, it is undeniable that these results fall short of people's expectations. The government must continue its efforts to improve overall administrative efficiency. The new Executive Yuan must start with honesty and capability to satisfy the people's needs as its goal. It is only with honesty that we will be able to do things correctly, with capability that only the right things will be done; and by regarding the people as the true masters the government officials will become public servants who can accomplish a lot of work. Hence, from now on, government departments will universally improve their service efficiency and quality through modern information and science and technology. All government departments must consider arousing public servants' sense of honor and mission as an important means to make each and every one of them understand their roles in a prosperous nation. Therefore, the concept of enhancing the nation's competitiveness must be included in all administrative reform programs. What we must particularly stress is that the concept must be upheld by central departments down to all the grass-roots units, so that all government servants will become champions of competitiveness. I am convinced that only a competitive administration will make a competitive nation.

To increase our private sector's vitality and encourage investment willingness, the government has a duty to foster a good environment that offers incentives. The government, therefore, will go all-out to remove obstacles to investment. Specifically, it will reduce the interference of noneconomic factors. Moreover, it will encourage the private sector to take part in national construction and expedite the privatization of government enterprises. The government will further integrate government and private scientific and technological programs, promote the results of major science research projects and high-technology develop-

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ment projects, and encourage people to se[illegible] national high-technology enterprises.

Education is, without a doubt, a crucial factor that can affect our competitiveness. Therefore, we cannot afford to fail in our educational reform. The Educational Reform Commission has specifically pointed out that we should liberalize and diversify our country's educational system and make it more flexible. Besides, we should establish a lifetime learning system so that all our people can join the international trend toward continuing education. We will put these proposals into practice.

The goal of economic development is to improve the quality of life through higher personal incomes. The government has an unshirkable duty to handle matters that have a direct impact on people's lives. The government will provide our people with decent housing and roads; clean drinking water; clean air; decent schools, hospitals, and recreational facilities; a stable environment; room for development; and credible public service. Moreover, we will rid our society of the threats of underworld criminal gangs, the interference of money politics, and ill-gotten gains. What we now have to do is to expedite infrastructure construction, implement an overall land development plan, and carry out work related to ecological conservation and environmental protection. We must make active efforts to establish a national annuity system and do our best to uphold social justice and preserve peace in society.

We must point out that the government should fully exercise its functions to advance the process of internationalization and liberalization. In the financial and economic spheres, the government's position can be described in terms of a football match. It is simultaneously a midfielder, referee, cheerleader, and linesman. It has to invigorate private financial institutions and bring in foreign capital. Therefore, the government can no longer hand out gifts as a Santa Claus, but it has to provide guidance as a fair-minded referee. Although the government may not be highly accomplished, it can operate in a highly efficient manner by not interfering in some matters.

Next, I will discuss the issue of creating an atmosphere favorable to both sides of the Taiwan Strait. Stable cross-strait relations are conducive to social stability and economic development on both sides of the strait, as well as to the great cause of reunification. Therefore, we must carry out the proposal made by President Li in his inaugural speech — turning the tragedy of Chinese fighting Chinese into a new epoch in which Chinese help each other. We believe that Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, no matter where they are, have a common hope — that people will no longer dread political persecution because the rule of law is safeguarded and human rights are protected; that they will no longer suffer poverty following the introduction of market mechanisms; that they will no longer be ignorant following the introduction of universal education; and that people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait will no longer live in fear of war as a result of benign interaction. Looking to the 21st century, Taiwan and the mainland need each other, and all Chinese entertain high hopes of each other. They hope that nationalism [min zu zhu yi] will be replaced by national feeling [min zu qing yi] and China's division will be replaced by reunification. Here, I would like to stress specifically that apart from actively working for the signing of a cross-strait peace agreement, the government's political stand [zheng zhi li chang] is that before an agreement is reached, we will strengthen cross-strait exchanges mainly through economic relations and trade. And we will take more active and more flexible actions, including planning the establishment of special economic and trade zones on the two sides of the Taiwan Strait and creating an atmosphere even more favorable to the peaceful reunification of the two sides.

Ladies and gentlemen: Lastly, I would like to say that our participation in the race for global competitiveness poses a challenge that transcends national borders. The effort to improve our country's competitiveness is a cross-century commitment. To truly improve the country's competitiveness, the Executive Yuan will set up an ad-hoc task force. I will invite representatives from industry, government, academia, and nongovernmental sectors, as well as lawmakers, to put forward concrete, feasible measures within a specified time frame. Improving our competitiveness and administrative efficiency is a marathon race with no end; it is also a challenge that requires the exertion of all our energies. Let us turn our efforts to scale the heights of global competitiveness into a national transformation movement by bringing about overall improvements — from government efficiency, internationalization, and liberalization to quality of life, infrastructure construction, science and technology, the development of our undertakings, personnel training, and living habits. With an unprecedented determination and an active and down-to-earth style, we will win this silent war and usher in a new epoch for the country. Thank you.

[Announcer] Listeners, what you have just heard is a news conference held by Mr. Lien Chan, vice president and premier, for Chinese and foreign correspondents. Vice President and Premier Lien just delivered an important speech on the government's future plans for running the country. After this, he will answer correspon-

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dents' questions. Huang Yu-wen, a reporter from the Broadcasting Corporation of China news department, will also ask questions at the news conference. Please stay tuned to the Broadcasting Corporation of China's live relay of the news conference. Some reporters will begin asking questions at any time soon.

[(Chang)] Vice President. I am (Chang Chengkuo) of CHUNG YANG JIH PAO. A few days ago you said that you want to open a new age with a new determination. Has the new determination been reflected in the new cabinet? And what is the basis for the new cabinet?

[Lien] The new determination should not only be reflected in policies, but also in the personal arrangements. Therefore, in the past few days, I have been working on forming a cabinet. I basically hope to recruit departmental leaders who are hardworking and who are bold in assuming responsibilities. They should have planning capability; they should have the capability to enforce plans, so that our policies will be implemented one by one as scheduled. Of course, I am still working on the list of the entire cabinet. But it is my hope that the new force will bring its abilities into play and lead our country into the 21st century.

[Correspondent] I am a correspondent of Taiwan Television Company. In your speech you said now is an uncertain age. Reports in the past two months over the reshuffling of cabinet have also been marked by uncertainties, much to the annoyance of the general public. This has also caused concern to those in the Executive Yuan. Could you announce today the partial and confirmed list of the members of the new cabinet? Could you tell us about the special characteristics of this list? Did you or the president prepare the list of the cabinet following the presidential election?

[Lien] I would like to, but I cannot do that. This is because the announcement has to go through certain procedures. But I think the announcement will be made very soon. It will be announced in full tomorrow at the Kuomintang Standing Committee's extraordinary session. In the course of recruiting talents, I find that our country indeed has a vast pool of talents, thanks to the long years of investment in education and in training and to the general public's attaching importance to education. We find ourselves in a situation that we have more talents than we want to make use of them. Of course, we want to work out steps and methods for the nurturing of talents, so that those with potential may be given proper job positions and gradually assume greater responsibilities according to their age, experience, and knowledge. This has been one of my convictions. In the course of personnel readjustment, I have maintained close contacts with the president. I also reported to the president and solicited his suggestions over the personnel readjustment on many occasions. It may be said that the president has a full grasp of the trend in various administrative departments and of the personnel matters. I greatly admire the president's principle over those matters. Guided by the president, I spent some time searching for cabinet members for the new cabinet. The situation is roughly like this.

[(Li)] Premier Lien Chan, I am (Li Chien-rong) of CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO. A moment ago, you specifically indicated a direction for the future cross-strait policy. The people on both sides of the strait should attach great importance to your remarks. But I would like to raise a concrete issue. You mentioned earlier about promoting a special economic and trade zone in a more aggressive and flexible manner. What is the direction of this idea? President Li also raised the idea of the Chinese helping the Chinese. We have also suggested ways to help the other side. But how can the other side help us in return? Thank you.

[Lien] The basic reason for my advancing that idea is because the two sides of the strait got entangled in the political dispute over the so-called matter of the three-exchanges. The dispute is also one over sovereignty. I always feel that there exist many common interests between the two sides of the strait. We are now at a very critical moment. It is a question of whether we can seek common ground by setting aside differences. Seeking common ground means seeking economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural, and educational cooperation. Stop splitting hairs over political dispute involving sovereignty. The more you split hairs over such a dispute, things get more entangled. Therefore, we concluded an air agreement with Macao not long ago. I must admit it was an act of convenience. We also advanced the offshore transshipment idea. We understand the mainland navigation circles are also very receptive to this idea. But I have a feeling that these are only minor matters. At the moment, the most important thing is how to build a so-called special zone through legislation. In that special zone, personnel, goods, and funds may move freely in and out of the special zone. This is a way to solve the dispute over sovereignty. No one can accept the idea of making the Republic of China a so- called local government of the mainland. This is my basic view. As to what good can derive from this, both sides of the strait can calculate the big economic benefits. Our trade with the mainland and our investment in the mainland testify to that. On the other hand, the mainland's ninth five-year plan, enterprises' structural reform, and others require a lot of outside support. The Republic of China and Hong Kong provide nearly 60 percent of such outside support.

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[Correspondent] I am a LIEN-HO PAO correspondent [name indistinct]. Judging from the namelist available, the Executive Yuan will be mainly composed of Kuomintang members. Political parties are playing different roles in the Executive Yuan. In the Legislative Yuan's era, major policies were formulated under Kuomintang support. The third term of the Legislative Yuan faced a major decision on the nuclear power station [name indistinct]. At a time when the Legislative Yuan's political structure has changed, do you have any decision or method to win the marathon race?

[Lien] Everyone is concerned about the problem you have raised. Today, the Legislative Yuan's structure has changed. In this situation, we will work out better arrangements. As I understand it, many government's policies are moving forward, including the people in the Asia-Pacific region, including our [words indistinct], including our educational reform, and other infrastructural construction projects. In the Legislative Yuan, all have a consensus. So how should this state consolidate and reinforce this government so as to push forward this major policy? This is the basis on which we, including myself personally, will strive to achieve our goals in our future orientation.

[Correspondent] I am [name indistinct]. It seems there are many old people on the new cabinet's namelist.

[Lien] New members are far more than old members. But today we have not reached a stage of [words indistinct]. On the one hand, I will exercise democratic politics, political parties' politics. On the other hand, we have an actual need to [words indistinct]. Apart from these two departments, government functionaries have made outstanding performances and achievements in political departments. This is the third point. The fourth point is, we hope [words indistinct].

[(Chen)] How are you, Mr. Premier. I am (Chen Huan-mei) of the Chinese Broadcasting System. You just mentioned that a principle for forming the new cabinet is [words indistinct]. There is an issue about which everyone has been very concerned about; that is, that the new post of Minister of Justice Ma Ying-chiu, whose performance has always been affirmed by the public, is quite out of the public's expectation. Could you explain this arrangement? Thank you.

[Lien] Regarding the new cabinet, I [words indistinct] because I am against the cabinet system. So, personnel arrangement of the Executive Yuan is a thorough personnel readjustment. Since it is a thorough personnel readjustment, there are no specific posts for specific individuals [words indistinct]. Minister Ma is truly a very outstanding public servant. I also think many members of the current cabinet are outstanding public servants. We have proper [words indistinct], not arrangement, for them. In the future, we, in the new posts, will have to do next-stage (?work). Our country needs these outstanding public servants.

[Correspondent] How are you, Mr. Premier. I am [name indistinct] of LIEN HO DAILY NEWS. You are now the vice president and the premier, and people have been wondering how long you will serve as premier. Will you step down at the same time with the third legislators? Or will you do so at an appropriate time before that? Have President Li and you reached some kind of a tacit agreement regarding the term of your premiership?

[Lien] I myself am also very curious about this. But I do not know how to answer you, because I feel that, compared with other people, I have been in public post for a long time. So I must be responsible for a period of time — this is what I have promised. In particular, we need to put into action the work we mentioned today. I do not mean to complete this work, but at least we need to start. I think many important policies, of which some we mentioned today, will begin to be implemented then. I think then [words indistinct]

[Correspondent] How are you, Premier Lien. I am [name indistinct] of CHINA EVENING NEWS. I like to [words indistinct]. Regarding Minister Ma Ying-chiu, if the list of new cabinet members as published in newspapers is final, some cabinet members will remain in their posts. So it is not like what you said is a thorough personnel readjustment. Some individuals who should be moved are not moved. On the contrary, everyone thinks that Mr. Ma Ying-chiu should not have been moved, but he is moved. So could you explain why Mr. Ma is moved. Is he (?not trusted) [sentence indistinct]. Will this affect the government's future [words indistinct] Could you comment on this? Thank you.

[Lien] How heavy an individual's responsibility has nothing to do with [words indistinct]. Otherwise, all cabinet members should not be moved because I think all of them are [passage indistinct]. I think everyone has his own view on particular individuals. I think, if individuals have performed outstandingly, they should be given the opportunity to demonstrate their talents. This is my [words indistinct]. As for the so-called mafia-money politics. I think everyone has a common understanding on this. How we will reform the administrative departments is an issue, and how we will reform the judicial departments is [words indistinct]. Especially after the presidential election, everyone thinks [words indistinct]. Actually, we have determined to thoroughly eliminate the social (?evils). [sentence indistinct] This is the government's determination as well as a starting point

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of reform. This has already [words indistinct,] so I am not at liberty to discuss it. However, I like to stress the government's determination, and I hope all the people will not (passage indistinct).

[(Li)] How are you, Mr. Premier. I am (Li Siew-chi) of the China Television Company. On the issue of the vice president concurrently serving as the premier, President Li formally made the decision at [words indistinct]. The opposition parties have requested the grand judge to [words indistinct]. I wonder how you view this issue. Thank you.

[Lien] Today, I meet everyone here in the capacity as the head of the Executive Yuan. President Li and I joined the ninth presidential election, and we thank all the people very much for electing us. However, I must stress here that the vice president's responsibility is clearly defined in the Constitution and it has a very clear characteristic. So, I hope that, when discussing this issue, everyone should have some fundamental knowledge about the Constitution. The characteristic of the vice president's responsibility is that he does not have any specific responsibility. He is completely a (passage indistinct). All his responsibility is assigned by the president, and such responsibility is usually temporary and on a case-by-case basis. [sentences indistinct] So I will do my very best to perform my duty.

[Huang] How are you, Mr. Premier. I am Huang Yu-wen of the China Broadcasting Corporation. President Li said he is willing to make a peace trip to the mainland. As the vice president, how do you plan to assist the president in breaking the cross-strait deadlock? Are you also willing to visit the mainland?

[Lien] I came to Taiwan at the age of (?13) and since then have never visited the mainland. I think all Chinese people wish to see the changes that have taken place on the mainland, and to see people's life there. I think this is what everyone, including myself, (?wishes to do). However, the current cross-strait relations cannot be [words indistinct] through a meeting between certain individuals or [words indistinct]. In my view, [words indistinct] and I absolutely do not rule out high-level exchange, because high-level exchange can nurture [words indistinct] or even can foster personal relations. [sentence indistinct] The two sides of the strait have been separated for nearly 50 years. [passage indistinct) As high-level exchanges could be promoted and accelerated, I would not absolutely rule out the possibility of high-level exchanges. I think, in his inaugural speech, President Li said as long as the nation needs it, he is willing to [words indistinct]. I wish the Chinese Communists will [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] Just now you mentioned that our government will no longer stress great accomplishments but instead it will become an efficient government. Why is it that an efficient government cannot mean a government that stresses great accomplishments? Will you please explain more specifically?

[Lien] The government that stressed great accomplishments was initiated during Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo's administration. The concept was for the government to play greater roles and shoulder more responsibilities. During those times, our national income per capita of only a few thousand NT [New Taiwan] dollars was very low. The concept of the government that stressed great accomplishments was conceived by Mr. Chen Kui-hua, director of the Personnel Administration Bureau at that time, and Mr. Fang Miao-tsai, my current secretary and my office chief. The concept was very popular. However, to be more competitive nowadays, we need to mobilize all the people's resources, including the private sector, enterprises, and other social circles. We can no longer depend on the government in every aspect. The government can only perform a certain limited number of important tasks. Last year, I mentioned that the government could only be a referee but not an operator; that the government should aim to enhance competition; and that the government's responsibilities should be clearly specified. The government's workings should be transparent and open. In other words, we cannot do everything. The government cannot simply increase budget and personnel. Previously, the government would hire over 10,000 additional personnel annually. We can notice that our financial debt increased by nearly 30 percent because of national construction projects in the past years. After we have made efforts and developed education programs and social sectors for many years, our society is very competent. We can notice it in many aspects. I hope all of you will pay more attention to and further publicize the concept.

[(Huang)] Premier, I am (Huang Chao-yun) of [words indistinct]. You hardly mentioned foreign affairs in your remarks. You had been a foreign minister before. What are your comments if South Africa decides to adopt dual recognition [words indistinct]? You visited South Africa four times while holding a cabinet post in the past three years. Do you plan to visit South Africa soon?

[Lien] Our tasks on foreign affairs and foreign policies are very specific. We are facing new opportunities now. [words indistinct] When commenting on relations between the Republic of China and South Africa, I must stress: President Mandela is a very [words indistinct] and outstanding political leader. President Mandela is a moral and courageous leader. Therefore, under his leadership, I believe the two countries will constantly

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strengthen their relations and develop close ties. The South African foreign minister will visit the Republic of China in the near future. South Africa will strengthen its relations with the Republic of China after its foreign minister witnesses the latter's achievements in various spheres during his upcoming visit. I believe his visit will have very positive [words indistinct]. The Republic of China is a country with independent sovereignty. All nations friendly to us also exercise independent sovereignty. When developing foreign relations, any country with independent sovereignty should not come under the influence of other countries. Therefore, under the general premise that it will not affect the Republic of China's rights and harm the Republic of China's interests, we will not try to influence any country's attempts to develop relations with the government of another country or the regime of any region.

[(Lin)] Premier, I am a (?KVS) reporter (Lin Nai-hsin). You repeatedly mentioned President Li's instructions and policies in your remarks. In fact, according to our current Constitution, even after the president was elected by the people, presidential duties and powers have not changed at all. [words indistinct] In the future, will the premier serve as an executive of the president who was elected by the people? Just now you mentioned you opposed the cabinet system. What is the relationship between the president and the premier? [words indistinct]

[Lien] [words indistinct] premier of the Executive Yuan [words indistinct].

[(I)] How are you, chief of the Executive Yuan? I am (I Chih-liu) from [words indistinct]. There are many important tasks for the new cabinet. [words indistinct] Does this have anything to do with your job as chief of the Executive Yuan and concurrently as vice president? Besides, I worry that this would become old-man politics [lao ren zheng zhi] similar to that of the Chinese Communists.

[Lien] I think my understanding is [words indistinct]. You said many people have retained their jobs in the cabinet. I want to look at my namelist to see if there is a mistake. [words indistinct]

[Correspondent] [words indistinct] You are vice president of the Republic of China and chief of the Executive Yuan. In addition, you are also vice chairman of the Kuomintang. With your current status as the holder of three positions and your experience in serving as chief of the Executive Yuan, I would like to ask the vice president: How would you create an opportunity for the Kuomintang to develop in an environment of party politics and how would you absolve the Kuomintang from the accusation by many people that it has been under the influence of criminal syndicates and money power [hei jin]?.

[Lien] At a news conference of the chief of the Executive Yuan, I am afraid it is not very convenient for me to discuss this issue. However, since you have asked. [words indistinct] The Kuomintang is different from any ordinary political party. It is the political party which founded our country many years ago. It has lead our country up to this day, [words indistinct] revolution and domestic trouble and foreign aggression. It is also a party of the whole people. It is not like many political parties [words indistinct] which represent certain regions, represent certain strata, and represent certain religions and interests. It is a party of the whole people. Today, as I talk about the ruling party, I think we should judge it from this angle. Of course, in an era where the process of democratization is very fast and transformation proceeds at an accelerated pace, the ruling party should carry out substantial reform to meet the requirements of the time. Only thus can it continue to lead [words indistinct]. I think the ruling party should open the doors wide, expand [words indistinct], train personnel, study society [words indistinct], and create a progressive image. [words indistinct]

[Correspondent] In less than 400 days Hong Kong will be returned to the [words indistinct]. Can you give your specific views on possible Taiwan-Hong Kong relations after 1997? And since Taiwan has no bargaining power in the aviation talks, does the government have a new specific policy to deal with the issue of Taiwan-Hong Kong aviation rights and Hong Kong-Macao relations after 1997? Will the government form a special task force to deal with these issues?

[Lien] We are very much concerned about the future of Hong Kong and Macao. We ardently hope that Hong Kong can maintain its current democratic system. I think Hong Kong's development will be promising only under a democratic system and in a big environment of freedom. This will contribute not only to Hong Kong and the mainland, and the Taiwan-Hong Kong relations, but also to the entire Asia-Pacific region. This is our ardent expectation. Also, on the basis of these principles, we are trying to promote the relations between Hong Kong and Taiwan. On the one hand, the Executive Yuan has drafted a regulation on Hong Kong-Taiwan relations to standardize our future (?activities) with the Hong Kong-Macao region and with the compatriots there. I hope the process of legislation can be speedily completed.

The second point I want to mention specifically is that [words indistinct], with a realistic attitude, we want to fully demonstrate the Republic of China's willingness to

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remain in Hong Kong and expand our [words indistinct] there after 1997. You have just mentioned the Taiwan-Macao air route [words indistinct]. Recently, we lifted restrictions to allow Macao compatriots to come to Taiwan [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] How are you, chief of the Executive Yuan. I am [words indistinct]. When President Li decided to ask you to continue in the post of chief of the Executive Yuan, he based his decision on this consideration; that is, policies can be continued to be maintained. The cross-century state plan put forward by the old cabinet clearly states that the national annuity system will be put into place before the year 2000. May I ask how the Executive Yuan is going to realize this plan after its reshuffle?

[Lien] [words indistinct] This is very important. The national annuity plan constitutes a part of our social development plan. We have already put into place a health insurance system for the whole people. However, we still lack a system to take care of the livelihood of the old people, including their retirement and other related matters. Of course, we have taken the first step to publicize this among the farmers. We hope to expand our publicity to the whole people so that we can create a national annuity system for the whole people with insurance as the key element. This way, our compatriots will be taken care of in old age. [words indistinct] Today, old people account more than 70 percent of Taiwan's population. Therefore, how to take care of our citizens, especially when the percentage of old people keeps rising, is a task we have to tackle in the days to come.

[Correspondent] I am a correspondent from CTN television. [words indistinct] In the past Taiwan used to describe Beijing as a place of old-people politics. However, what he means is that only their age is old, their face is old. Similar to the condition in Beijing, the present condition in Taiwan is that the president remains unchanged and the chief of the Executive Yuan remains unchanged. The faces of central leaders are quite familiar. Therefore, people wonder whether Premier Lien has any new policies in mind, especially a new policy on cross-strait relations. In addition to the special economic and trade zone which is awaiting legislation, President Li has mentioned about exchange of visits by leaders on both sides of the strait and the signing of a peace accord. What is the first step the Executive Yuan will take to bring about their realization? Do these two policy targets have inevitable cause and effect relationship?

[Lien] Basically, I think cross-strait relations depend on the efforts of both sides. This is a basic point of departure. The responsibility for promoting useful interaction in cross-strait relations cannot rest solely on the Republic of China. This is something we cannot accept. You cannot make a sound with only one palm. Therefore, the Chinese Communists should share the same responsibility, if not more, then they should, at least, share the same responsibility. We can promote useful interaction only with common efforts. You are right, in the past President Li has talked about many specific measures on cross-strait relations. As for myself, whether at the Legislative Yuan and at other places, I have also talked about cross-strait relations. However, today I want to ask: What have the Chinese Communists done up to now? Therefore, in conclusion, I want to avail myself of this opportunity to make an appeal: For the future of the nation, the country's unification, and the [?interests] of the people on both sides of the straits, the Chinese Communists should consider facing as soon as possible the reality of the relations between both sides of the strait today, so as to create a better future.

Taiwan: Kuomintang Party Supports Lien Chan Premiership

OW0706005296 Taipei Broadcasting Corporation of China News Network in Mandarin
2300 GMT 5 Jun 96

[From the "Hookup" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] With regard to the president's decision and announcement, reactions of the Legislative Yuan's ruling and opposition party caucuses indicated different stands. The Kuomintang Party [KMT] caucus expressed its support. It felt this is the best manifestation of practicing party politics. However, the opposition party caucus insisted that it wanted to once again exercise its power of consent on the new premier. Meanwhile, opposition legislators forwarded the issue of whether the vice president can concurrently hold the premier post to the grand justices' meeting for hearing. The following is a report by Liu Pei-yun.

[Begin recording] [Liu] The KMT caucus at the Legislative Yuan said the party's legislators will give full support to Vice President Lien Chan to continue to serve as premier. Further, Tsao E-chung, chief secretary of the KMT caucus at the Legislative Yuan, also held that President Li's action in retaining Premier Lien Chan will enable the continued implementation of the Legislative Yuan's administrative plans. Furthermore, it has practiced democracy in the party and party politics, thereby enhancing interaction between the Executive Yuan and the Legislative Yuan.

[Tsao] The president's decision was made after analyzing the common understanding established by the KMT

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legislators. It has not only implemented party politics, but also practiced democracy within the party. It has strengthened the communication between our government and the Legislative Yuan. All the KMT legislators welcome, affirm, and support this outcome. [end recording]

[Liu] However, Chang Chun-hung, chief convener of the party caucus of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party [DPP], felt that the KMT's action has seriously affected our constitutional system. Meanwhile, it is an excuse to avoid the exercise of the power of consent, a disrespect of the National Assembly. The chief convener of the New Party said that the opposition parties will insist on exercising the power of consent on the new premier. [end recording]

Taiwan: Companies Allowed To Invest in 499 More Items in Mainland

OW0606145596 (Internet) Taiwan Central News Agency WWW in English 1424 GMT 6 Jun 96

[By Maubo Chang]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Taipei, June 6 (CNA) — The ROC [Republic of China] government is expected this week to allow Taiwan companies to invest in another 499 items, mostly manufactured goods, in Mainland China.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) will hold a regular meeting Saturday [8 June] to examine the 499 goods, which also include agricultural and fishery products, that the Industrial Development Bureau has proposed to open for investment in Mainland China.

Huang Chin-tan, executive secretary of the Investment Commission under the MOEA, said Thursday that he expects the 499 items, which have already been approved by Economics Minister P.K. Chiang, to be ratified at the meeting.

Huang said the items on the list were either requested by the respective industries or suggested by government agencies in line with mainland policy.

Among the items are automobile parts and synthetic fibers, though automobile gear boxes, four-stroke gasoline engines, and automotive electronic controlling systems will still require special approval.

In addition to the 499 items, the Finance Ministry is considering asking the MOEA to open securities brokerage and investment consulting services in the mainland to Taiwan investors.

Taiwan: Over 200 Illegal Mainland Immigrants Repatriated

OW0606145996 (Internet) Taiwan Central News Agency WWW in English 1447 GMT 6 Jun 96

[By Flor Wang]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Taipei, June 6 (CNA) — The detention center on the offshore island of Matsu repatriated 222 illegal immigrants from Mainland China on Thursday [6 June].

The 222 mainlanders detained at the center, including 218 males and four females, were sent back to Mainland China with the help of the ROC [Republic of China] Red Cross Society and its mainland counterpart.

Earlier in the day, a vessel departing from Keelung in northern Taiwan shipped 119 illegal mainland immigrants, including 107 men and 12 women, to the detention center. They will be given accommodations there before being repatriated.

The detention center said the number of illegal immigrants from the mainland is rising sharply, and it will send another group back to Mainland China on Friday.

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Hong Kong

Hong Kong: XINHUA Official on Press Freedom After 1997

OW0606150296 Beijing XINHUA Hong Kong Service in Chinese 0639 GMT 2 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Hong Kong, 2 June (XINHUA) — Zheng Guoxiong, deputy director of the Hong Kong branch of XINHUA, said: Hong Kong residents can enjoy freedom of the press, publication, and speech under the Basic Law after 1997, but they should also observe the law.

Speaking at a meeting marking the second anniversary of the Association for All Social Sectors in Hong Kong's Central and Western Districts and the inauguration ceremony of the association's officials, Zheng Guoxiong said: The Basic Law stipulates that the basic system, including freedom of the press, publication, and speech, will remain unchanged in Hong Kong after 1997. The Basic Law also stipulates it is necessary to exercise these privileges within the frame of the law. All things must be conducted in accordance with the law. This is an issue which constitutes two different aspects.

He pointed out: The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region [HKSAR] needs to formulate its own laws governing some specific issues. For example, the HKSAR shall legislate its own laws prohibiting any acts of treason, splitting the country, instigating rebellions, subverting the central people's government, and stealing the state's secrets, prohibiting foreign political organizations and social groups from conducting political activities in the HKSAR, and prohibiting political organizations and social groups in the HKSAR from establishing contacts with their counterparts in foreign countries. The first article of the Basic Law stipulates very clearly that the HKSAR is an inalienable part of the People's Republic of China. Therefore, we should see the freedom of press as a whole, encompassing two aspects.

Zheng Guoxiong said: While accepting a foreign media interview on the freedom of press and not advocating the concept of two Chinas the other day, Lu Ping, director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office under the State Council, also elucidated relevant issues in line with this fundamental principle and spirit.

Hong Kong: Editorial Rejects Patten's View on Freedom of Speech

HK0706091796 Hong Kong WEN WEI PO in Chinese 7 Jun 96 p A2

[Editorial: "Chris Patten Makes a Fool of Himself by Saying Something Revealing His Ignorance of the Law"]

[PTS Translated Text for FBIS] On 5 June Chris Patten again said nonsensically that "both the Basic Law and the Joint Declaration have guaranteed freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. No ifs or buts, no qualifications, no phrases in brackets, no footnotes. Absolute." "The Chinese side should pledge that the freedom of speech currently enjoyed by the Hong Kong press will continue to be guaranteed after 1997."

All freedom of speech and freedom of assembly are guaranteed by the law, but no law in any country provides absolute freedom. While enjoying freedoms, citizens should also undertake responsibilities, because rights and responsibilities match each other. If you do not undertake responsibilities, you can hardly enjoy rights. Similarly, the Basic Law and the Joint Declaration guarantee all sorts of freedoms for Hong Kong compatriots and, at the same time, set out responsibilities for them.

It is stipulated in Article I of Annex I of the Joint Declaration that the National People's Congress of China shall enact and promulgate a Basic Law in accordance with the Constitution, stipulating that after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region [SAR] the socialist system and socialist policies shall not be practiced in the SAR and that Hong Kong's former capitalist system and lifestyle shall remain unchanged for 50 years. It is stipulated in Article II that the laws previously in force in Hong Kong shall be maintained, save for any that contravene the Basic Law and subject to any amendment by the Hong Kong SAR legislature.

After 1 July 1997, there will be an enormous change; i.e., the Chinese Government will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong. This change is reflected in articles of the Basic Law. Regarding the Basic Law, Patten has adopted the method of cutting it apart and taking it out of context. He has only read Article 27, but ignored Article 23. The Basic Law is an integrated constitution. It has articles providing freedoms and others setting out duties and responsibilities. They complement each other. Only those who accept the constraints of the Basic Law can enjoy the freedoms provided by the Basic Law.

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No country allows acts of secession of territory and sovereignty and of subversion against the central government. For this reason, the Basic Law puts forward in the Preamble the need to "uphold national unity and territorial integrity." It is also stipulated in Article 23 that "the Hong Kong SAR shall enact laws on its own to prohibit any act of treason, secession, sedition, subversion against the Central People's Government, or theft of state secrets." Therefore, Patten demonstrated total disregard of the law when he said that after 1997 freedom is absolute, with no ifs and buts, no qualifications, no phrases in brackets, no footnotes.

British law prohibits acts of treason, and the crime of treason includes betrayal of one's country, the secession of territory, and subversion of the Queen's rule. As a supreme law for implementing "one country, two systems," the Basic Law should of course stipulate the operation of "one country, two systems" and prohibit acts that endanger its operation. It will certainly endanger "one country, two systems" if someone engages in "two Chinas." Hong Kong is a SAR directly under the central people's government. It contravenes the Basic Law for anyone to advocate "two Chinas," separate Hong Kong or other Chinese territories from China, oppose or resist the sovereignty of the central government, or set up another political entity, and it will eventually endanger peaceful coexistence between the two systems, breed confrontation, and damage the interests of the 6 million Hong Kong people. Article 23 of the Basic Law on restricting damage to state sovereignty and security is necessary for safeguarding "one country, two systems."

What is meant by "advocating" two Chinas? In the future the SAR will enact laws to distinguish between a crime and a non-crime.

The Common Law gives clear definitions as well as legal precedents for the crime of instigation [jiao suo zui 2403 0778 4997] and the crime of sedition [shan dong zui 3569 0520 4997]. If only Patten cares to look at Hong Kong court files, he will be able to see how many media and journalistic workers have been penalized by the government in an effort to maintain law and order and safeguard Britain's rule. In nonsensically saying that "freedom of speech and assembly is absolute," Patten has, first and foremost, run counter to the history and present condition of British rule in Hong Kong. Under Patten's administration, there are laws in Hong Kong restricting both assembly and speech, and people cannot do whatever they like. Those guilty of "illegal gatherings" are liable to be sentenced. There are also laws restricting freedom of the media. It is not allowed to instigate subversion of British rule, report in detail an ongoing case that may lead the public or judges to believe that a certain person is guilty, vilify others, or publish salacious writing or pictures, nor is television allowed to broadcast cigarette advertisements or television series or scenes of extreme violence and obscenity. Can this be regarded as "absolute freedom"? Did not Patten talk nonsense and neglect his duty when he issued, without consulting the legal department, a statement that freedom is not subject to legal restrictions in Hong Kong? According to the "Letters Patent" and "Royal Instructions," the duty of a Hong Kong governor is to uphold Hong Kong's laws and order. Will the British Hong Kong Government also wash its hands of it if a situation should emerge in Hong Kong where the law is violated and Hong Kong's stability and order is undermined? To oppose "one country, two systems," Patten has, regardless of anything, made remarks revealing his ignorance of the law. It can be said that he has indeed reached the stage of being blinded by self-interest.

Patten should have conscientiously read the provisions in the Joint Declaration, such as "the laws currently in force in Hong Kong will remain basically unchanged," "those laws that contravene the Basic Law will be null and void," and "during the transition period the United Kingdom will be responsible for the administration of Hong Kong with the object of maintaining and preserving its economic prosperity and social stability." As Hong Kong Governor, any acts of contravening these articles and trampling upon the law on his part are rash [lu mang 7627 5462] and irresponsible.

Hong Kong: Editorial on Nature, Importance of Press Freedom

HK0706063996 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 7 Jun 96 p 20

[Editorial: "Media Matters"]

[PTS Transcribed Text for FBIS] Newspapers which run editorials about the press may be seen to be serving their own interests. But statements by the Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office in the past week have made a major story of media freedom after July 1, 1997, and, in the process, pointed to important issues for the months ahead.

The point which aroused most immediate interest in Director Lu Ping's television interview broadcast last Friday was his clear statement that media support for independence for Taiwan or Hong Kong would not be allowed. That was hardly a surprise given the strength of China's feelings about Taiwan and its own territorial integrity — and, as a matter of fact, no major media organisation here supports such independence.

But Mr Lu's warning raised two broader concerns: that reporting after the change of sovereignty would only

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be allowed to cover views of which Beijing approved, and that these views would be the only expressions of opinion permitted to appear.

On Wednesday, Mr Lu told journalists in Tokyo that there would be no problem with objective reporting in Hong Kong, and that people here could criticise Chinese policies and oppose the Chinese government. Advocating independence was, he said, different from objectively reporting such views. "Opinion is one thing," he added. "Putting it into action is another" If reporters became advocates, that constituted action.

This moved the limit of what would be permissible from its most restrictive line — as many had inferred would be the case immediately after Mr Lu's television interview — to the point at which opinion turns into action.

Society

Inevitably, there are questions of definition. When is an editorial an expression of opinion and when does it become a call to action? How far should a newspaper be held responsible for action which a reader may take after reading an opinion column? How will the law within which the media must operate after 1997 set parameters in areas often better painted in shades of grey than in stark black and white? While such questions are important in themselves, the debate set off by Mr Lu's remarks goes further since it involves a significant aspect of the whole relationship between China and Hong Kong, and their societies.

The media should not be seen in isolation. Their situation is a function of the general state of society. Newspapers and broadcasting stations reflect the way in which their public lives and thinks. The media have to operate within the law without asking for favours but also without suffering from special legal restrictions. So the way in which the law treats them is an element in how the legal system as a whole operates.

These are some of the reasons why the debate on the media around Mr Lu's interview and his statements on Wednesday has a wider relevance for the way in which Hong Kong meets its future.

Healthy

As a pluralistic society under an imposed colonial authority, the territory built up a pluralistic media in a politically constricted system. In many ways, the freedom of the press counter-balanced the executive-led administration. It fostered a market-based media structure that is among the most healthy in the world, with high readership and publications which echo the territory's energetic, inquiring and open-minded nature. Information is seen not as an abstract concept desirable for its own sake but a means of advancement and a useful commodity. Whatever old statutes may have been on the files, the press has been answerable only to the courts and has been free to develop both editorially and commercially within a stable and accountable legal framework.

Newspapers have, by and large, lived or died according to commercial criteria that apply to the business world as a whole. At the same time, there has been a clear distinction between the territory's administration and its media: indeed, in the last year of colonial rule, it has become increasingly difficult to identify pro-British newspapers.

How far can the present state of affairs survive after 1997? Clearly, there will be specific changes. For instance, it may be the case that no Hong Kong newspaper advocates independence for the territory or for Taiwan; but if one wished to, it could do this without getting into trouble. After July 1, next year, that possibility will not be open to anyone who wants to stay within the law.

Objective

More generally, the success of Hong Kong's media system is based on a different tenet to the one which Chinese authorities are used to. Will that be recognised next year?

Mr Lu speaks from the viewpoint of an administration which identifies the government with the nation, puts the highest premium on territorial integrity, and sees the media as one of its integral elements. Hence the belief expressed in his television interview that the US press would not be allowed to advocate independence for Hawaii or a change of government.

Whatever their local characteristics, Hong Kong newspapers and commercial broadcasters have grown on a different model which regards the media, the nation and the government as separate entities. Under that model, a Honolulu newspaper is, indeed, perfectly free to call for independence and many Republican newspapers in the US are, at this very moment, banging the drum for a change of administration in Washington.

Then there is the question of coverage. If a newspaper in China fills its front page with a report of a speech, it can be assumed that the contents of the speech have the newspaper's support. In Hong Kong, this is not the case. The fact that Hong Kong newspapers have been leading their front pages with reports of Mr Lu's remarks does not mean they agree with him, any more than reporting from Taiwan signals support for independence.

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The distinction between news and opinion, between reporting and the political position of a newspaper, is one reason why readers are ready to use the media as a source of information on which to base their decisions. As a general rule, the more credible and objective the media are, the stronger they are — and the better they serve their society, including the business world.

Character

The strength of its press has served Hong Kong well. The volume, speed and quality of information from newspapers, electronic media and broadcasters has contributed significantly to the territory's character. Hong Kong's position as a media centre buttresses its role as an international financial hub. But next year the territory will be part of a country which has no experience of the system in which Hong Kong media have developed.

Different governments define press freedom differently. In Hong Kong's case, there is no doubt that this freedom is among the strands which, woven together, have made this territory so successful over the years. There will be many elements making up the Hong Kong system after the change of sovereignty. The media are just one of these, but their nature and their role are clear — and the damage which would be caused by subsuming them into an administrative apparatus is plain.

Hong Kong: XINHUA Official on Handover Ceremony Coverage, Other Issues

HK0706093496 Hong Kong TA KUNG PAO in Chinese 7 Jun 96 p a1

[Report: "Zhang Junsheng Says That the Chinese Side Does Not Oppose Coverage of Handover Ceremony by Foreign Media"]

[PTS Translated Text for FBIS] On 6 June, Zhang Junsheng, deputy director of the Hong Kong Branch of XINHUA News Agency, stressed: The Chinese side has never opposed coverage of the Hong Kong handover ceremony by foreign media. However, experts of the Chinese and British sides are still discussing how to carry out the ceremony, and have not reached a consensus. Therefore, specific details of the matter are still unknown.

Yesterday, Zhang Junsheng attended a preview of Hong Kong noted painter Li Hsun-ping's '96 Painting Exhibition in Canada, and a banquet marking the fifth anniversary of the founding of the Hong Kong Real Estate and Building Industry Association. He denied reports that the Chinese side would not allow foreign reporters to cover the Sino-British sovereignty handover ceremony. He said: At midnight on 30 June next year, the Chinese and British sides will hold a sovereignty handover ceremony. After that, the Chinese Government will announce the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region [SAR]. This will be followed by a series of jubilant cerebration activities, including those held by the SAR government, people from all walks of life, and various organizations.

As far as the handover ceremony is concerned, the Chinese and British expert group is still discussing the relevant issues, and has not yet reached a consensus. The Chinese side has never opposed coverage of the Hong Kong handover ceremony or celebration activities by foreign media. However, since the two sides have not reached an agreement on the handover ceremony, it is still not clear how the ceremony will be conducted. The venue for the ceremony, the number of attendees, the size of the ceremony, and so on are not clear. If the venue is big, more reporters can, of course, be accommodated for live coverage. If the venue is small, fewer reporters will, of course, be allowed to enter.

When Zhang was asked about the principles for the coverage by foreign media, foreign guests invited to attend the ceremony, applications for coverage, and so on, he said: "In October last year, one of the agreements reached by the foreign ministers of the two countries in London was that they would establish an expert group to discuss the handover issue. The expert group has discussed this matter several times, but has not reached a consensus. Therefore, I have no comment to make on this issue. Once a decision is made, I will tell you all. Applications are needed for on-the-spot coverage. If everyone is allowed to enter the venue for the ceremony without application, there will be confusion."

With regard to candidates for the future chief executive, Zhang said: "I will not make any comment on the issue of the chief executive. The selection committee has not yet been formed, and no decision has yet been made by the Preparatory Committee on the specific method for electing the chief executive. How can we talk about the issue of the chief executive? It is at present still too early to talk about it."

With regard to a statement made by the chairman of the Law Society a few days ago that if Hong Kong people think that the establishment of the provisional legislature is devoid of a legal basis, they can bring the case to court for trial, and let a judge decide its lawfulness, Zhang said: "Establishing the Hong Kong SAR and SAR Government is a matter for the Chinese Government. This is a decision made by the National People's Congress [NPC]. The NPC is the highest legislative organ in China. As far as the establishment of the provisional legislature is concerned, Chinese Vice Premier Qian Qichen has explained this matter very clearly, and

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there is no need to argue this matter again. It is a fait accompli, and alteration is impossible. The establishment of the provisional legislature is legal, reasonable and rational. Some people did not study or criticize the British side, and the British Hong Kong authorities in particular. They did not ask them why they had failed to observe the relevant stipulations of the Joint Declaration, why they had failed to honor the promise on convergence with the Basic Law, and why they had failed to abide by the understanding and agreements reached by the Chinese and British sides through diplomatic channels. Instead, they dished out the "three violations" constitutional reform package to undermine the through-train arrangement. Now they want to study the lawfulness of the provisional legislature. It is utterly meaningless to do so."

Zhang stressed that he had repeatedly talked about the legal basis for the provisional legislature and the reasons for its establishment. He hoped that people would no longer discuss this issue, because it was meaningless to do so. They should pay attention to the establishment of the selection committee in the future. Only this is a correct attitude.

Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten stated yesterday that Lu Ping, director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, must clarify the difference between reporting and advocating. With regard to this issue, Zhang Junsheng said: "The other day, I called upon Mr. Chris Patten to clarify his views expressed by his spokesman on the remarks of Mr. Lu Ping. But he has not made any clarification to date. He must clarify the views which I want him to clarify. I do not think that Mr Chris Patten is unclear about the difference between reporting and advocating. Let me give you an example. If a friend in press circles encounters a criminal case, he can report the case, but he is not allowed to advocate crimes! This is a matter which is clear to all. Does he really not know the difference? I do not know why Chris Patten has downgraded his political wisdom to such a low level."

Hong Kong: Financial Official Outlines Debt Market

OW0606163796 Beijing XINHUA in English 1518 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hong Kong, June 6 (XINHUA) — Hong Kong is striving to develop a world-class debt market to sharpen its edge as a regional financial hub well into the next century.

Addressing an annual dinner of Financial Executives Institute (HK) Ltd. today, Financial Secretary Donald Tsang said that despite a short history of seven years, Hong Kong's debt market is a rising star of the Asia-Pacific capital markets.

The present size of the debt market is still small compared with other financial sectors — equity market and bank loans, which have been the main sources of business funding in Hong Kong, said the official.

But the debt market has seen rapid growth from a very low base of 27 billion HK dollars (3.5 billion US dollars) in 1989 to 214 billion HK dollars (27.4 billion US dollars) at the end of the first quarter of 1996. Debt issued by private sectors accounted for 70 percent of the total by the end of March.

"The expansion has been phenomenal," said the financial secretary, who stressed that the market has thrived largely on private sector initiatives, though the government did take an active role in facilitating the development.

Two government initiatives — the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) and the proposed Mortgage Corporation — would gear up Hong Kong's debt market to further expansion in the coming years, according to Tsang.

The MPF system would cover more than two million people in the work force, and the large pool of retirement reserves would fuel the demand for debt and other financial instruments. Tsang estimated that the annual contributions under the system would amount to 30 to 40 billion HK dollars (3.8 to 5.1 billion US dollars).

The Mortgage Corporation, when established, would provide high quality debt paper such as mortgage-backed securities for investors, so as to widen the range of financial products being offered and boost the development of Hong Kong's secondary mortgage market.

Tsang said that Hong Kong is also the center providing debt financing services for the huge infrastructure work programs in the Asia Pacific region.

The region's infrastructure investment is estimated to be around 1.5 to 2.5 trillion US dollars in the years up to 2000, according to the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank. China alone will account for one third of the total amount.

Hong Kong will play an important role in arranging such huge debt issues, especially for China, said the official.

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Macao

Macao: New Portuguese Chief of Joint Liaison Group Takes Office

OW0506140796 Beijing XINHUA in English 1349 GMT 5 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Macao, June 5 (XINHUA) — The new chief representative of the Portuguese team of the Sino-Portuguese Joint Liaison Group (JLG), Antonio Santana Carlos, has arrived in Macao to take the place of Jorge Ritto, current chief representative.

Carlos, 51, who has worked in Portuguese embassies in Japan, Italy and Angola, is the fifth chief representative of the Portuguese team of the Sino-Portuguese JLG.

During a meeting with chief representative of the Chinese team of the JLG, Guo Jiading, on Tuesday, Carlos said that he will work hard to continue cooperation and consultation with the Chinese side so that problems in the transitional period of Macao will be resolved properly and a stable transition can be achieved.

Guo said he was convinced that Carlos would maintain good cooperation with the Chinese side just as his predecessor Jorge Ritto.

The Chinese side will hold a banquet Friday to welcome Antonio Carlos as well as to say farewell to Jorge Ritto.

Macao: Three International Conventions To Remain in Force After 1999

OW0606130596 Beijing XINHUA in English 1237 GMT 6 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Macao, June 6 (XINHUA) — A Chinese official of the Sino-Portuguese Joint Liaison Group (JLG) said here today that three international conventions will remain applicable in Macao after 1999.

Wang Xian, representative of the Chinese team of the Sino-Portuguese JLG, told reporters after a close-door meeting with the representative of the Portuguese team that certain progress has been made in Macao's entry into world bodies and the extension of some international conventions in Macao.

The three conventions to be extended after 1999 include the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, a convention on environmental protection and a convention on the protection of natural species.

"We have exchanged views on a wide-range of issues including the application of international conventions in Macao," Wang said. "That will help quicken the working pace in solving transitional affairs in Macao."

Wang said that the Chinese side hopes the Portuguese side would offer a detailed list explaining the international conventions the Portuguese side wants to extend to Macao before 1999 and the international bodies Macao intends to join in before 1999.

"The list will help us to make an overall plan to solve different problems," Wang said. "I believe that making such a list will not cause much trouble to the Portuguese side."

Jorge Mendes, representative of the Portuguese team, told reporters that the two sides have discussed at least 27 international conventions, and the current meeting is a preparatory one for the coming session of the JLG at the end of this month.

During a meeting on Wednesday, the two sides discussed the three leading issues of the transitional period in Macao — the localization of civil servants and law, and the use of Chinese as an official language.

Wang said after the meeting that the localization of civil servants should be quickened as three-fourths of the transitional period has past and the remaining time is very limited.

He said that both sides agree that the quickening of the localization process is in the interests of both sides, and the localization of middle and senior rank civil servants should be put on top agenda now.

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